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ANALYSIS OF COMMITMENTS, 1985

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

Edward J. Loughran, Commissioner

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

<u>SECTION I</u>	<u>CHANGES IN CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS</u>
CHART I	BAR GRAPH OF NUMBER OF ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS, 1981-1985
CHART II	LINE GRAPH OF CHARGE TYPE, 1980-1985
TABLE I	CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS, 1984-1985
TABLE II	TYPE OF OFFENSE, 1984-1985
TABLE III	HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS, 1982-1984
CHART III	MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT, 1981-1985
 <u>SECTION II</u>	 <u>CHARACTERISTICS OF 1985 COMMITMENTS BY REGION</u>
TABLE IV	SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION
TABLE V	RACE AND SEX BY REGION
TABLE VI	AGE AND INCOME BY REGION
TABLE VII	CHARGE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE VIII	OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE IX	MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION
TABLE X	LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

SECTION III

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC
CHARACTERISTICS, 1985

TABLE XI	SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS
TABLE XII	MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY SEX
TABLE XIII	AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX
TABLE XIV	OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX
TABLE XV	AGE, FAMILY INCOME, AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE
CHART IV	PROPORTIONS OF PERSON AND NON-PERSON OFFENDERS BY AGE AT COMMITMENT
APPENDIX	EXPLANATION OF MISSING DATA

INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Planning, Research and Systems of the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services (DYS) is responsible for producing annual reports and conducting special projects to inform decision-making at all policy levels of DHS. The annual Commitment Report is a summary of new client information that is collected at the time of client intake and entered onto DHS' client tracking system. A profile of the first-time committed youth and selected characteristics of his or her family is thereby provided on an annual basis. Comparative data from earlier years is also available to suggest future trends in client characteristics and to assist in planning future service delivery.

Massachusetts DHS is divided into five geographical regions (see map on back cover). Youths are committed to DHS by juvenile courts for criminal offenses and are then referred to the DHS region of their home address. They are assigned a regional caseworker and, depending on the seriousness of their offense, are placed in a secure setting or else are serviced in an unlocked community-based program. Massachusetts DHS is unusual in that it is primarily a private vendor system. Privately-run service providers enter into a competitive bidding process in order to win contracts to service DHS youths.

Some of the key questions which this report is designed to address include: What are the characteristics of the youths DHS is mandated to service? To what extent do youths in our new client population share similar socio-economic characteristics, and to what extent do they differ? Are youths with the most difficult family backgrounds found more frequently in certain regions of the Commonwealth than in others?

In calendar year 1985, 879 youths were committed to DHS out of 19,804 who were arraigned on delinquency charges in juvenile court. This represents a 16 percent increase in commitments over the previous year. The typical new DHS client in 1985 tended to be male, aged 15 years and seven months, white, and was committed to DHS on burglary charges. His family's income was \$10,000 and his parents were divorced or separated. This "average" client profile does not vary significantly from other years. There are, however, important distinctions between the 1985 commitment population and those of recent years, most notably in the distribution of offense, race, and sex.

This report is divided into three sections. Section I focuses on changes in client characteristics based on intake data over the past several years. Section II examines characteristics of 1985 new commitments according to geographical region. Section III examines selected relationships between client demographic characteristics for 1985 new commitments, such as the affect of parents' marital status on the type of offense for which the youth was committed. The appendix explains what information is "missing" from the tables - uncollected by the regional offices at client intake - and therefore unavailable for analysis.

We gratefully acknowledge Joan Lewis and Ann Dello Russo for their skill and patience in word processing and formatting this report.

SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

1. The volume of new commitments in 1985 was marked by a substantial 16 percent increase that was unprecedented in recent years. The one year rise in commitments, from 756 to 879, is partly explained by a 7.5 percent increase in juvenile court arraignments. (See Chart I.)
2. Six - year trends in the offense distribution of new commitments have been relatively minor but the last three years show a 7 percent increase in the proportion of offenses against the person and an 8 percent decrease in the proportion of property offenses. (See Chart II.)
3. The increase in black and Hispanic youths was notable during both the 1984/1985 and 1982/1985 time periods. Between 1984 and 1985, the number of white youths increased by 5.5 percent compared with 50 percent and 42 percent increases in black and Hispanic youths. Between 1982 and 1985, the number of white youths declined 7 percent, while black and Hispanic youths increased 21.5 and 27 percent respectively. (See Table I.)
4. New commitments rose substantially in 1985 in all regions except Southeast, where they actually declined by 11 percent. The difference in Southeast region can be attributed to their policy of encouraging court referrals instead of commitments. (See Table I.)
5. The percentage increase in youths committed for offenses against the person was substantial both for 1984/85 (+28 percent) and 1982/85 (+32 percent). (See Table I.)
6. Although burglary continues to be the most common commitment offense, the number of youths committed on such charges has steadily declined over the past three years. At the same time, increases were found in three types of assault offenses (armed, unarmed, and sexual) and in various categories of lesser offenses. (See Chart II.)
7. As in 1984, white youths predominated in every region except Metropolitan Boston, whose 1985 proportion of whites (26%) was even lower than in 1984 (41%). (See Table IV.)

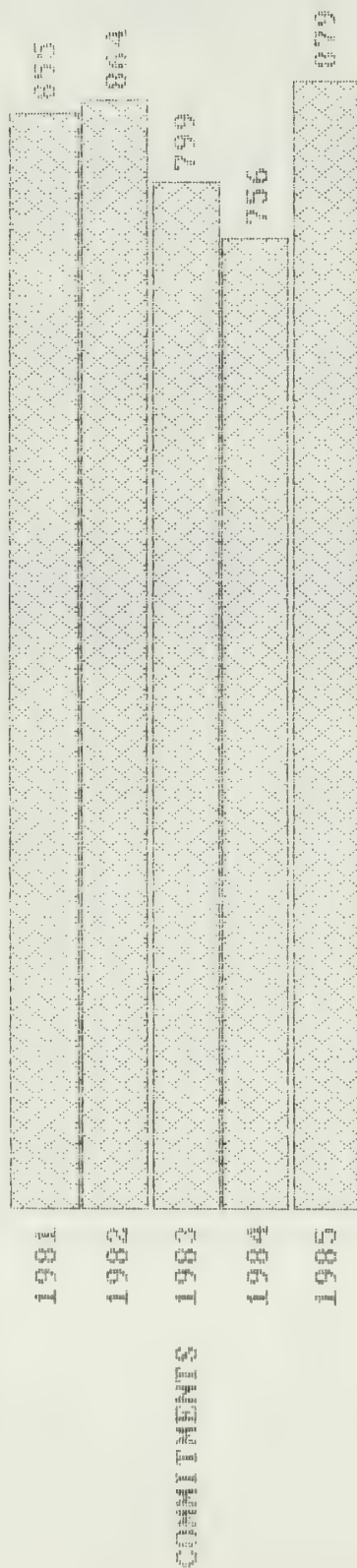
8. As in the last two years, Metro Region's new commitments included a higher proportion of person offenders than any other region (45.4 percent of Metro's new clients were person offenders). (See Table VII.)
9. Regional comparisons of grade level showed that Metro Region had the smallest proportion of youth (16.4 percent) who completed beyond the eighth grade, compared with 29.1 percent statewide. (See Table X.)
10. As in past years, over half of the 1985 commitments came from homes where parents are divorced or separated, and only one-fifth came from households where parents are married and living together. (See Table XI.)
11. In support of earlier years' findings, there were statistically significant differences among categories of race for family income and parents' marital status. Hispanic families fell into the lowest income categories, and a substantial proportion of black youths' parents (31.9 percent) were never married. (See Table XV.)

SECTION I CHANGES IN CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS

CHART I

APPAI COMMENTS TO THE APPALACHIAN COMMISSIONS 1981 - 1985

NUMBER OF COMMENTS



NUMBER OF APPALACHIAN



CHART I - ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS

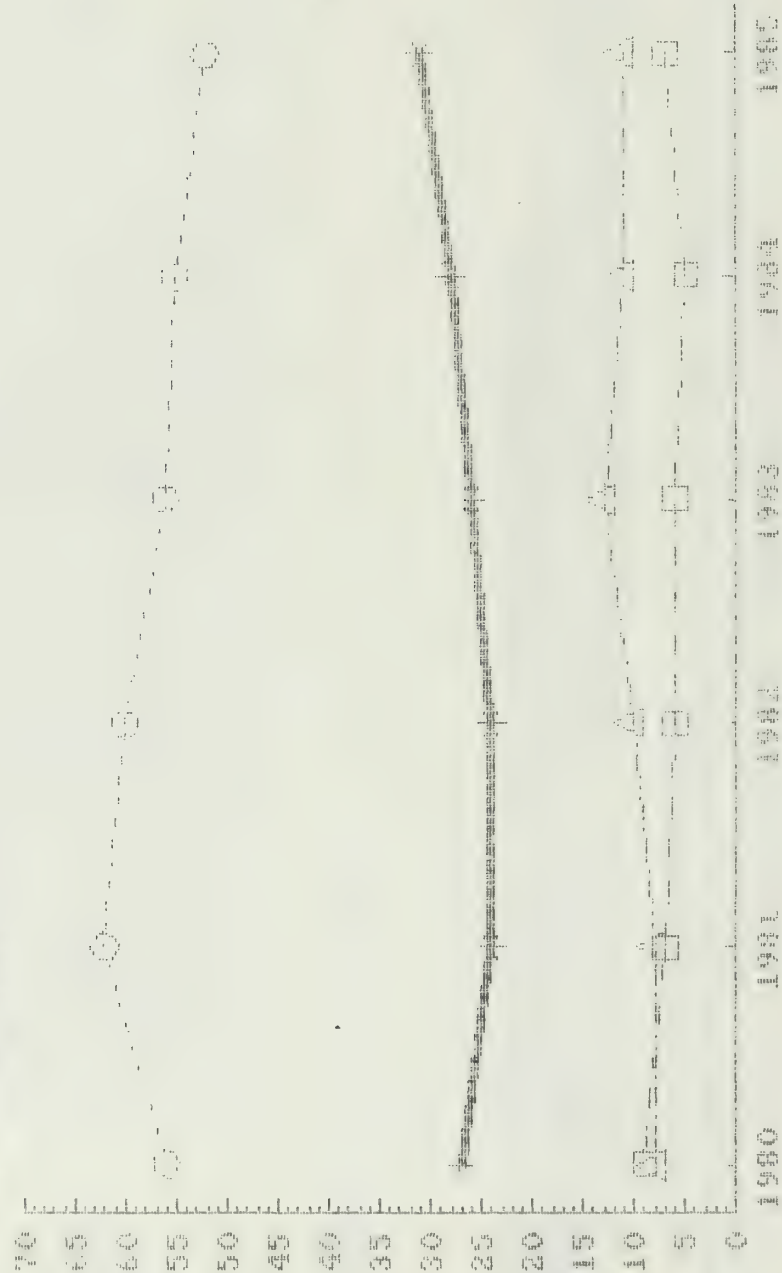
The volume of new commitments in 1985 was marked by a substantial 16 percent increase that was unprecedented in recent years. The increase was not anticipated due to a decline of commitments since 1983 that appeared to coincide with the declining juvenile population.

The rise in commitments is explainable in part by a 7.5 percent increase in juvenile court arraignments between 1984 to 1985. The balance has been attributed to the high potential for fluctuating commitment practices among the seventy juvenile district courts across the Commonwealth.

CHART II

CHART II
1980 - 1985

PERCENTAGE OF CHANGES



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

CHART II CHARGE TYPE 1980 - 1985

There have been relatively minor changes in the offense distribution of new commitment cohorts from 1980 to 1985. Causing some concern, however, is the steady increase in youths committed for offenses against the person between 1982 and 1985, increasing from 24 percent to 31 percent of the new client population. At the same time, youths committed for property offenses have declined from 60 percent in 1982 to 52 percent in 1985. Motor vehicle offenses (mainly use without authority) fluctuated slightly over the six-year period between 5 and 9 percent. Slight fluctuations also occurred for "other" offenders, (public order, non-assaultive sex offenders, and delinquent youths whose charges were not specified), between 8 and 13 percent during the course of the past six years.

TABLE I
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS
1984-1985

	1984		1985		CHANGE 1984-1985		CHANGE 1982-1985	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS	756	(100)	879	(100)	+123	(+16.3)	+15	(+1.7)
AGE:								
9.0-12.5 YEARS	13	(1.7)	14	(1.6)	+1	(+7.7)	0	(0)
12.6-13.5 YEARS	30	(4.7)	42	(4.8)	+12	(+40.0)	+17	(+68.0)
13.6-14.5 YEARS	83	(11.0)	101	(11.5)	+18	(+21.7)	-29	(-22.3)
14.6-15.5 YEARS	199	(26.3)	260	(29.6)	+61	(+30.7)	+58	(+28.7)
15.6-16.5 YEARS	251	(33.2)	288	(32.8)	+37	(+14.7)	-5	(-1.7)
16.6+	180	(23.8)	174	(19.8)	-6	(-3.3)	-26	(-13.0)
SEX:								
MALE	648	(85.7)	785	(89.3)	+137	(+21.0)	+24	(+3.2)
FEMALE	108	(14.3)	94	(10.7)	-14	(-13.0)	-9	(-8.7)
RACE:								
WHITE	541	(71.6)	571	(65.0)	+30	(+5.5)	-44	(-7.2)
BLACK	128	(16.9)	192	(21.8)	+64	(+50.0)	+34	(+21.5)
HISPANIC	76	(10.0)	108	(12.3)	+32	(+42.1)	+23	(+27.1)
OTHER	11	(1.5)	8	(.9)	-3	(-27.3)	+2	(+33.3)
REGION:								
WESTERN	137	(18.1)	184	(20.9)	+47	(+34.3)	+9	(+5.1)
CENTRAL	159	(21.0)	179	(20.4)	+20	(+12.6)	+11	(+6.5)
NORTHEAST	149	(19.7)	188	(21.4)	+39	(+26.2)	+17	(+9.9)
SOUTHEAST	148	(19.6)	132	(15.0)	-16	(-10.8)	-48	(-26.7)
METRO	163	(21.6)	196	(22.3)	+33	(+20.2)	+26	(+15.3)
CHARGE TYPE:								
PERSON	213	(28.2)	272	(30.9)	+59	(+27.7)	+66	(+32.0)
PROPERTY	416	(55.0)	453	(51.5)	+37	(+8.9)	-68	(-13.1)
MOTOR VEHICLE	41	(5.4)	59	(6.7)	+18	(+43.9)	+7	(+13.5)
CONTROLLED SUBST.	23	(3.0)	32	(3.6)	+9	(+39.1)	+8	(+33.3)
OTHER	63	(8.3)	63	(7.2)	0	(0)	+2	(+3.3)
FAMILY INCOME:								
0 - \$5,328	101	(20.0)	122	(23.9)	+21	(+20.8)	-27	(-18.1)
\$5,329 - \$7,130	67	(13.3)	57	(11.2)	-10	(-14.9)	-74	(-56.5)
\$7,131 - \$10,188	87	(12.2)	85	(16.7)	-2	(-2.3)	-75	(-46.9)
\$10,189 - \$17,316	130	(25.7)	109	(21.4)	-21	(-16.2)	-40	(-25.3)
\$17,317 +	120	(23.8)	137	(26.9)	+17	(+14.2)	-5	(-3.5)

TABLE I - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS 1984-1985

How have characteristics of incoming clients changed over the past two years? Table I presents comparative data for 1984-1985 and 1982-1985.

Age: Due to the substantial increase in 1985 commitments overall, the number of youths increased in all but the oldest age category between 1984 and 1985. The highest percentage increased over the two-year period occurred among youths in the 12.6-13.5 age group (+30.7%), but the charges were not statistically significant. The three-year trend from 1982 to 1985 indicated a substantial increase in youths ages 12.6-13.5 (+68%).

Sex: Recent trends in commitment of boys and girls have diverged. In 1984 the number of boys committed declined 8%, while girls increased by 15%; in 1985, this pattern reversed, in that boys increased by 137 youths or 21%, while girls declined in number by 14, or 13%. The differences between 1984 and 1985 were statistically significant. The three year trend indicated an increase in boys of 3% and a decrease in girls of 9%.

Race: The increase in black and Hispanic youths was notable during both the one-year and three-year time periods. The number of black and Hispanic youths rose considerably during 1985 (+50% and +42% respectively), while white youths experienced a smaller increase (+5.5%) and "other" racial groups declined. The changes from 1984 to 1985 were statistically significant.

Region: New commitments rose substantially in 1985 in all regions except Southeast, where they actually declined 11%. The decrease in Southeast does not appear to be related to crime rate as juvenile arraignments increased in Southeast regional courts in about the same proportion as the 8% statewide increase. The difference can be attributed to Southeast region's recent policy of encouraging court referrals instead of commitments. In 1985, Southeast region received 124 court referrals, who were provided services by DYS in conjunction with other state agencies.

Charge Type: The percentage increase in youths committed for offenses against the person who was substantial both for 1984/85 (+28%) and 1982/85 (+32%). Despite a modest increase in property offenders in 1985 (+9%), youths committed on such charges declined by 13% between 1982 and 1985. The redistribution of offenses from 1984 to 1985 was not dramatic enough to reach statistical significance.

Family Income: Increases occurred in 1985 only in income categories at each extreme. Three-year figures are difficult to interpret because of missing data in 1985, but they generally mirror the 1984/85 pattern.

TABLE II

TYPE OF OFFENSE

1984-1985

OFFENSE	1984		1985		CHANGE 1984-1985		CHANGE 1982-1985	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
MURDER	5	(.6)	3	(.3)	- 2	(-40.0)	+ 2	(+200.0)
MANSLAUGHTER	1	(.1)	4	(.5)	+ 3	(+300.0)	0	0
ARMED ASSAULT	74	(9.8)	80	(9.1)	+ 6	(+8.1)	+20	(+33.3)
UNARMED ASSAULT	54	(7.1)	79	(9.0)	+25	(+46.3)	+21	(+36.2)
ARMED ROBBERY	16	(2.1)	23	(2.6)	+ 7	(+43.8)	0	0
UNARMED ROBBERY	23	(3.0)	28	(3.2)	+ 5	(+21.7)	- 4	(-12.5)
SEXUAL ASSAULT	31	(4.1)	43	(4.9)	+12	(+38.7)	+26	(+152.9)
KIDNAPPING	0	(0)	2	(.2)	+ 2	----	+ 1	(+100.0)
THREATS, ETC.	9	(1.2)	9	(1.0)	0	0	+ 1	(+12.5)
OTHER PERSON	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	----	- 1	(-100.0)
ARSON	9	(1.2)	13	(1.5)	+ 4	(+44.4)	0	0
BURGLARY AND PBT*	193	(25.5)	205	(23.3)	+12	(+6.2)	-81	(-28.3)
LARCENY	145	(19.2)	160	(18.2)	+15	(+10.3)	+10	(+6.7)
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	27	(3.6)	27	(3.1)	0	0	- 2	(-6.9)
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	39	(5.2)	46	(5.2)	+ 7	(+17.9)	+11	(+31.4)
SEX OFFENSES	11	(1.5)	9	(1.0)	- 2	(-18.2)	+ 3	(+50.0)
MOTOR VEHICLE	41	(1.4)	59	(6.7)	+18	(+43.9)	+ 7	(+13.5)
PUBLIC ORDER	49	(6.5)	55	(6.3)	+ 6	(+12.2)	+23	(+71.9)
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	23	(3.0)	32	(3.6)	+ 9	(+39.1)	+ 8	(+33.3)
FRAUD	3	(.4)	2	(.2)	- 1	(-33.3)	- 6	(-75.0)
UNSPECIFIED DELINQUENCY	3	(.4)	0	(.0)	- 3	(-100.0)	-24	(-100.0)
* POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS								

TABLE II - TYPE OF OFFENSE 1984-1985

What are the trends in offenses for which youths were committed?

In 1985, as in previous years, the most common commitment offense was burglary (which includes all breaking and entering statutes) and possession of burglarious tools. Despite the predominance of this offense category, the number of youths committed on such charges has steadily and substantially declined over the past three years by a total of 28%. Various categories of assault (armed, unarmed and sexual) increased over the one-year and three-year periods, as did larceny, damage to property, and offenses involving motor vehicle, public order, and controlled substances.

TABLE III

HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1984-1985

COURT AND ZIP CODE AREAS	1984		1985		1984-1985 CHANGE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<u>COURT</u>						
BOSTON JUVENILE	54	(7.1)	77	(8.8)	+23	(+42.6)
SPRINGFIELD JUVENILE	56	(7.4)	60	(6.8)	+ 4	(+ 7.1)
DORCHESTER	44	(5.8)	51	(5.8)	+ 7	(+15.9)
WORCESTER JUVENILE	49	(6.5)	48	(5.5)	- 1	(- 2.0)
LOWELL	33	(4.4)	41	(4.7)	+ 8	(+24.2)
HOLYOKE	17	(2.2)	37	(4.2)	+20	(+117.6)
LAWRENCE	41	(5.4)	35	(4.0)	- 6	(-14.6)
CAMBRIDGE	23	(3.0)	26	(3.0)	+ 3	(+13.0)
NEW BEDFORD	21	(2.8)	26	(3.0)	+ 5	(+23.8)
LYNN	20	(2.6)	24	(2.7)	+ 4	(+20.0)
<u>ZIP CODE</u>						
HOLYOKE (01040)	15	(2.4)	40	(5.1)	+25	(+166.7)
ROXBURY - GROVE HALL (02121)	8	(1.3)	21	(2.7)	+13	(+162.5)
WORCESTER (01605)	8	(1.3)	17	(2.1)	+ 9	(+112.5)
DORCHESTER - CODMAN SQUARE (02124)	21	(3.4)	16	(2.1)	- 5	(-23.8)
ROXBURY CT. & TER. (02119)	14	(2.3)	15	(1.9)	+ 1	(+ 7.1)
SPRINGFIELD - HIGHLAND STA. (01109)	8	(1.3)	15	(1.9)	+ 7	(+87.5)

TABLE III - HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1984-1985

What courts and areas in Massachusetts contributed the most clients to DYS?

Table III lists the top ten committing courts and the six highest contributing zip code areas in 1985. The courts with the most dramatic increases in commitments were Holyoke Court (+118%) and Boston Juvenile Court (+43%).

Substantial increases in commitments were experienced by four of the top six contributing zip code areas. Commitments from Holyoke, Grove Hall and Worcester more than doubled between 1984 and 1985, although their contribution to the overall commitment cohort was no higher than 5%.

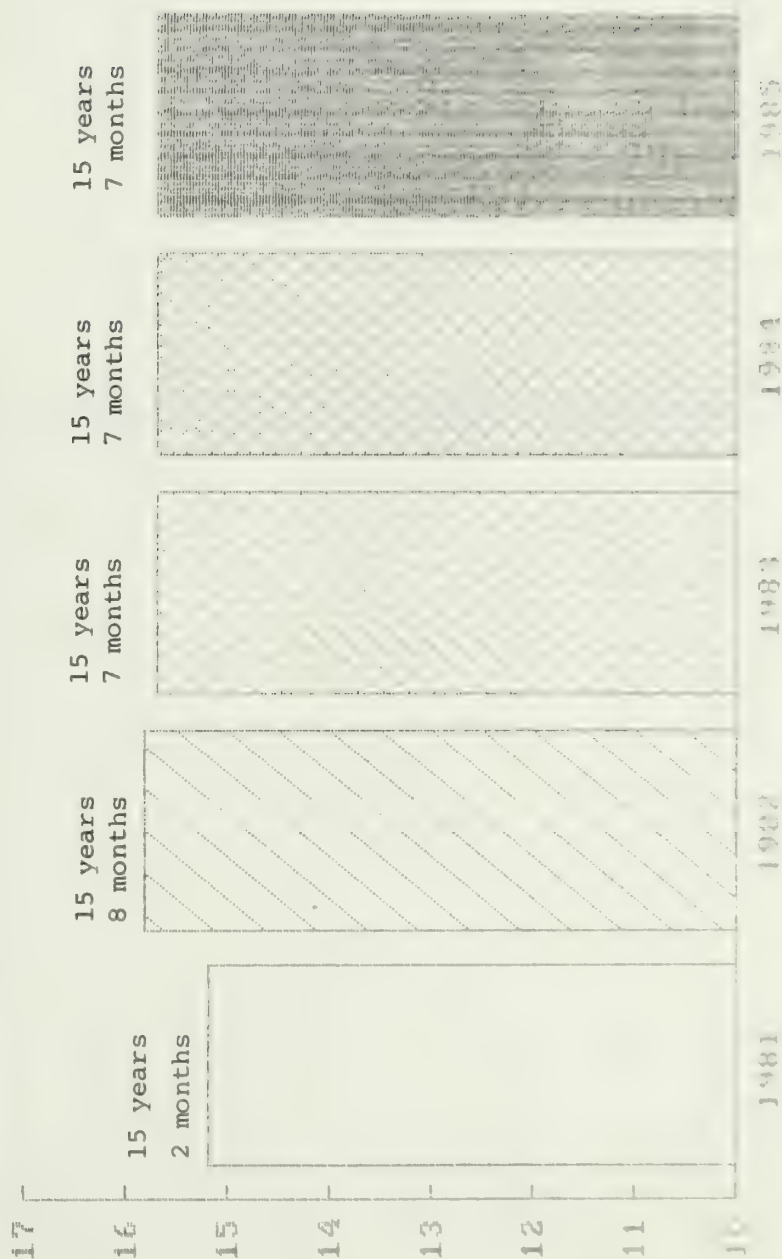
CHART III

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1981 - 1985

CHILD AGE AT COMMITMENT



YEAR OF COMMITMENT

SECTION II CHARACTERISTICS OF 1985 COMMITMENTS BY REGION

TABLE IV
SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
<u>SEX</u>															
MALE	168	21.4	91.3	153	19.4	85.5	167	21.3	88.8	126	16.1	95.5	171	21.8	87.2
FEMALE	16	17.0	8.7	26	27.7	14.5	21	22.3	11.2	6	6.4	4.6	25	26.6	12.8
<u>RACE</u>															
WHITE	117	20.5	63.6	143	25.0	79.9	141	24.7	75.0	119	20.8	90.2	51	8.9	26.0
BLACK	25	13.0	13.6	13	6.8	7.3	21	10.9	11.2	9	4.7	6.8	124	64.6	63.3
HISPANIC	38	35.2	20.7	23	21.3	12.9	22	20.4	11.7	4	3.7	3.0	21	19.4	10.7
OTHER	4	50.0	2.2	0	0	0	4	50.0	2.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>AGE AT COMMITMENT</u>															
9.0- 12.5	8	57.1	4.4	2	14.3	1.1	2	14.3	1.1	0	0	0	2	14.3	1.0
12.6- 13.5	11	26.2	6.0	14	33.3	7.8	5	11.9	2.7	5	11.9	3.8	7	16.7	3.6
13.6- 14.5	20	19.8	10.9	23	22.8	12.6	16	15.8	8.5	14	13.9	10.6	28	27.7	14.3
14.6- 15.5	67	25.8	36.4	50	19.2	27.9	53	20.4	28.2	36	13.9	27.3	54	20.8	27.6
15.6- 16.5	49	17.0	26.6	57	19.8	31.8	72	25.0	38.3	48	16.7	36.4	62	21.5	31.6
16.6 + over	29	16.7	15.8	33	19.0	18.4	40	23.0	21.3	29	16.7	22.0	43	24.7	21.9

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Sex</u>	Western Region	
	N	ROW%
Male	168	21.4
		COLUMN%
		91.3

In 1985, there were 168 males committed to DYS from the Western Region. These 168 males represented 21.4 percent of all males committed to DYS in 1985. These males also represented 91.3 percent of the commitments to the Western Region in 1985.

How do client characteristics vary by region?

Regional client profiles may be compared by reading column percentages across the table.

Highlights:

The Southeast region's gender distribution was disproportionately male (95.5%), translating into only six new girls committed to the Southeast region.

As in 1984, white youths predominated in every region except Metropolitan Boston, whose 1985 proportion of whites (26%) was even lower than in 1984 (41%). As expected from 1984's regional profiles, Western Region's racial distribution included the highest proportion of Hispanics.

The oldest commitments (aged 16.6 and over) were most often committed to Northeast and Metro regions. The youngest offenders (9.0 to 13.5) were most commonly residents of the Western or Central regions.

Regional differences in clients' sex, age and race were statistically significant.

TABLE V

RACE AND SEX BY REGION

	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
WHITE MALE	103	20.2	56.0	125	24.5	69.8	123	24.1	65.4	114	22.4	86.4	45	8.8	23.0
WHITE FEMALES	14	23.0	7.6	18	29.5	10.1	18	29.5	9.6	5	8.2	3.8	6	9.8	3.1
BLACK MALES	23	14.0	12.5	8	4.9	4.5	19	11.6	10.1	9	5.5	6.8	105	64.0	53.6
BLACK FEMALES	2	7.1	1.1	5	17.9	2.8	2	7.1	1.1	0	0.0	0.0	19	67.9	9.7
HISPANIC MALES	38	36.5	20.7	20	19.2	11.2	22	21.2	11.7	3	2.9	2.3	21	20.2	10.7
HISPANIC FEMALES	0	0.0	0.0	3	75.0	1.7	0	0.0	0.0	1	25.0	.8	0	0.0	0.0
OTHER MALES	4	57.1	2.2	0	0.0	0.0	3	42.9	1.6	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
OTHER FEMALES	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	100.0	.5	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0

Table V should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Western Region</u>		
<u>Race & Sex</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>
<u>White Male</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>20.2</u>
		<u>56.0</u>

In 1985, there were 103 white boys committed to the Western Region. These 103 youths represented 20.2 percent of all white males. These youths also represented 56 percent of all youths committed to the Western Region.

Comparing column percentages across, we find that the Southeast Region had the highest preponderance of white males; Central Region and Northeast regions of white females; Metro Region of black males and females; and Northeast Region of Hispanic males.

By comparing row percentages for males and females within each category of race, we can examine whether the racial distribution was similar for boys and girls. For example, Southeast Region received roughly one-fifth of all white males committed, but only 8.2 percent of white females.

TABLE VI
AGE AND INCOME BY REGION

	WESTERN	CENTRAL	NORTHEAST	SOUTHEAST	METRO	TOTAL
<u>AGE</u>						
MEAN AGE	15.3	15.4	15.7	15.8	15.7	15.6
MEDIAN AGE	15.4	15.6	15.9	15.8	15.8	15.7
LOWEST	9.4	12.5	11.3	12.9	11.7	9.4
HIGHEST	17.9	17.7	17.5	17.9	18.8	18.8
<u>FAMILY INCOME</u>						
MEAN INCOME	11,235	12,919	16,980	21,435	10,140	14,211
MEDIAN INCOME	8,000	12,000	10,220	15,600	8,220	10,000
LOWEST	0	0	0	0	0	0
HIGHEST	46,440	48,000	99,000	81,280	31,200	99,000

What are the regional variations in average client age and family income?

Table VI shows regional comparisons of client age at commitment and family income. "Average" age and income are represented by mean and median. The lowest and highest ages and incomes are also presented.

In calculating average age, the mean is a more commonly reported statistic than the median. Mean ages varied only slightly across regions.

In calculating average income, the median is the more commonly reported statistic. Average family income differences were found across regions, with average incomes of two regions - Western and Metro - falling below the statewide average, while Southeast's average was substantially above the statewide figure. Regional differences in family income were statistically significant for whites only.

TABLE VII

CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

CHARGE TYPE	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
AGAINST PERSON	52	19.1	28.3	51	18.8	28.5	46	16.9	24.5	34	12.5	25.8	89	32.7	45.4
AGAINST PROPERTY	108	23.8	58.7	92	20.3	51.4	107	23.6	56.9	77	17.0	58.3	69	15.2	35.2
MOTOR VEHICLE	9	15.3	4.9	16	27.1	8.9	14	23.7	7.5	12	20.3	9.1	8	13.6	4.1
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	3	9.4	1.6	6	18.8	3.4	7	21.9	3.7	3	9.4	2.3	13	40.6	6.6
OTHER	12	19.1	6.5	14	22.2	7.8	14	22.2	7.5	6	9.5	4.6	17	27.0	8.7

Table VII should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Charge Type</u> Against Person	<u>Western Region</u>	
	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u> <u>Column %</u>
	52	19.1 28.3

In 1985, there were 52 youths committed to the Western Region for offenses against the person. These 52 Western Region youths represented 19.1 percent of all person offenders in 1985. These person offenders also represented 28.3 percent of the commitments from the Western Region.

How did commitment offenses vary by region in 1985?

Regional offense profiles may be compared by reading the column percentages across the table. As in the last two years, Metro Region's new commitments included a higher proportion of person offenders than any other region (45.4 percent of Metro's new clients were person offenders). In other regions, property offenders were the most likely to be committed. The overall association between region and charge type was not statistically significant after accounting for regional differences in race, parents' marital status, and income.

Table VIII should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Northeast Region</u>			
<u>Offense Type</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Column %</u>
Murder	1	33.3	.6

In 1985, one youth was committed to the Northeast Region on murder charges. This youth represented 33.3 percent of all murderers committed to DYS in 1985. This youth also represented .6 percent of all commitments to the Central Region.

How do offense profiles vary by region?

Comparing column percentages across categories of region, as in the past two years, in all regions except Metro, the most common offense category was burglary followed by larceny. Youths in the Metro Region were most often committed on larceny, followed by burglary and unarmed assault.

Comparing row percentages across for offenses against the person with an N of 5 or more, Western Region had a disproportionately high share of unarmed and sexual assaults; Central Region of armed assault; and Metro Region of armed and unarmed assaults and unarmed robbery.

Comparing row percentages across for property offenses with an N of 15 or more, Western Region had a disproportionate number of commitments for burglary, Northeast for receiving stolen goods and damage to property, and Metro for controlled substance offenses.

TABLE IX
MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
JANUARY	24	27.3 13.0	8	9.1 4.5	17	19.3 9.0	14	15.9 10.6	25	28.4 12.8
FEBRUARY	17	25.4 9.2	8	11.9 4.5	19	28.4 10.1	8	11.9 6.1	15	22.4 7.7
MARCH	13	17.1 7.1	20	26.3 11.2	12	15.8 6.4	15	19.7 11.4	16	21.1 8.2
APRIL	14	19.4 7.6	10	13.9 5.6	15	20.8 8.0	14	19.4 10.6	19	26.4 9.7
MAY	14	15.9 7.6	25	28.4 14.0	22	25.0 11.7	11	12.5 8.3	16	18.2 8.2
JUNE	15	20.6 8.2	11	15.1 6.2	22	30.1 11.7	7	9.6 5.3	18	24.7 9.2
JULY	21	27.3 11.4	12	15.6 6.7	17	22.1 9.0	13	16.9 9.9	14	18.2 7.1
AUGUST	12	22.2 6.5	11	20.4 6.2	10	18.5 5.3	11	20.4 8.3	10	18.5 5.1
SEPTEMBER	14	21.9 7.6	18	28.1 10.1	12	18.8 6.4	8	12.5 6.1	12	18.8 6.1
OCTOBER	9	12.3 4.9	20	27.4 11.2	14	19.2 7.5	11	15.1 8.3	19	26.0 9.7
NOVEMBER	21	24.7 11.4	21	24.7 11.7	19	22.4 10.1	9	10.6 6.8	15	17.7 7.7
DECEMBER	10	16.1 5.4	15	24.2 8.4	9	14.5 4.8	11	17.7 8.3	17	27.4 8.7

Table IX should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Western Region</u>	
	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>
January	24	27.3
		<u>13.0</u>

In January, there were 24 youths committed to the Western Region. These 24 youths represented 27.3 percent of all youths committed to DYS in January. These youths also represented 13 percent of the commitments to the Western Region in 1985.

TABLE X
LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

LAST GRADE COMPLETED	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO		TOTAL	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	%
≤ 4th	1	50.0 0.6	0	0.0 0.0	0	0.0 0.0	0	0.0 0.0	1	50.0 0.5	2	0.2
5th	4	23.5 2.3	5	29.4 2.8	2	11.8 1.1	2	11.8 1.8	4	23.5 2.1	17	2.0
6th	35	32.7 20.4	16	15.0 8.9	11	10.3 6.0	13	12.2 11.4	32	29.9 16.9	107	12.8
7th	35	20.5 20.4	45	26.3 25.1	21	12.3 11.5	20	11.7 17.5	50	29.2 26.5	171	20.4
8th	54	18.2 31.4	51	17.2 28.5	75	25.3 41.0	45	15.2 39.5	71	24.0 37.6	296	35.4
9th	34	19.0 19.8	43	24.0 24.0	51	28.5 27.9	27	15.1 23.7	24	13.4 12.7	179	21.4
10th	9	15.8 5.2	16	28.1 8.9	20	35.1 10.9	6	10.5 5.3	6	10.5 3.2	57	6.8
11th	0	0.0 0.0	2	28.6 1.1	3	42.9 1.6	1	14.3 0.9	1	14.3 0.5	7	0.8
12th	0	0.0 0.0	1	100.0 0.6	0	0.0 0.0	0	0.0 0.0	0	0.0 0.0	1	0.1

Table X should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Western Region</u>		
<u>Last Grade Completed</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>
<u>< 4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>50.0</u>
		<u>0.6</u>

In 1985, there was one youth committed to the Western Region with no higher than a fourth grade education. This youth represented 50 percent of all youths at the lowest grade level category. This youth also represented .6 percent of all commitments to the Western Region.

How do clients' grade levels vary by region?

The total column presents the breakdown of the last grade completed by all youths committed in 1985. Regional comparisons show that Metro Region had the smallest proportion of youth (16.4 percent) who completed beyond the eighth grade, compared with 29.1 percent statewide. Regional differences in grade level were statistically significant.

SECTION III RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CLIENT DEMOGRAPHIC
CHARACTERISTICS, 1985

TABLE XI
SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

	I		II		III		IV		V	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
<u>TOTAL</u>	144	20.4 -	371	52.6 -	109	15.4 -	57	8.1 -	24	3.4 -
<u>SEX</u>										
MALE	133	21.1 92.4	329	52.3 88.7	94	14.9 86.2	52	8.3 91.2	21	3.3 87.5
FEMALE	11	14.5 7.6	42	55.3 11.3	15	19.7 13.8	5	6.6 8.8	3	4.0 12.5
<u>CHARGE TYPE</u>										
PERSONS	35	17.4 24.3	101	50.3 27.2	40	19.9 36.7	18	9.0 31.6	7	3.5 29.2
PROPERTY	85	22.6 59.0	199	52.8 53.6	54	14.3 49.5	24	6.4 42.1	15	4.0 62.5
MOTOR VEHICLE	13	25.0 9.0	30	57.7 8.1	4	7.7 3.7	3	5.8 5.3	2	3.9 8.3
CONTROLLED	1	4.2 0.7	13	54.2 3.5	5	20.8 4.6	5	20.8 8.8	0	0.0 0.0
SUBSTANCE										
OTHER	10	19.6 6.9	28	54.9 7.6	6	11.8 5.5	7	13.7 12.3	0	0.0 0.0
<u>REGION</u>										
WESTERN	20	10.9 13.9	110	60.1 29.7	36	19.7 33.0	12	6.6 21.1	5	2.7 20.8
CENTRAL	39	24.4 27.1	88	55.0 23.7	20	12.5 18.4	11	6.9 19.3	2	1.3 8.3
NORTHEAST	40	22.6 27.8	96	54.2 25.9	23	13.0 21.1	10	5.7 17.5	8	4.5 33.3
SOUTHEAST	37	30.8 25.7	50	41.7 13.5	17	14.2 15.6	12	10.0 21.1	4	3.3 16.7
METRO	8	12.3 5.6	27	41.5 7.3	13	20.0 11.9	12	18.5 21.1	5	7.7 20.8

Marital Status Codes: I = Married and Living Together

II = Divorced or Separated

III = Never Married

IV = Either or both deceased

V = Other

Table XI should be read as follows:

Example:

I (Married and Living Together)

<u>Sex</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Column %</u>
Male	133	21.1	92.4

In 1985, 133 boys were committed whose natural parents were married and living together at the time of commitment. These 133 boys with married parents represented 21.1 percent of all boys. These boys also represented 92.4 percent of boys and girls with married parents.

Total figures show that, as in the past two years, over half of the 1985 commitments (52.6 percent) came from homes where parents are divorced or separated. Only one-fifth (20.4 percent), like last year, came from households where parents are married and living together.

Reading down the row percentages for the Married and Living Together category, we find that a greater proportion of boys than girls (21 percent compared to 15 percent) came from households where natural parents' marriages were intact. The overall association between parents' marital status and sex of client was not statistically significant, however.

The offense distribution for each marital status can be determined by examining column percentage for categories of charge type. As in the past two years, youths with parents who never married (category III) were more likely than other youths to be committed for an offense against the person. Also consistent with the past two years, youths whose parents' marriages were intact (I) had a very similar offense distribution as youths whose parents were divorced or separated (II). This again suggests that for committed youths, parents' marital cohesion does not appear to influence the type of crime engaged in. The association between charge type and parents' marital status was not statistically significant.

Comparing down the row percentages for the Married and Living Together category, Metro and Western regions had the lowest proportion of youths with intact families. The association between region and parents' marital status was statistically significant for white males only.

TABLE XII

MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY SEX

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	TOTAL		MALE		FEMALE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
	879	(100.1)	785	(100)	94	(99.8)*
JANUARY	88	(10.0)	81	(10.3)	7	(7.5)
FEBRUARY	67	(7.6)	62	(7.9)	5	(5.3)
MARCH	76	(8.7)	68	(8.7)	8	(8.5)
FIRST QUARTER TOTAL	231	(26.3)	211	(29.4)	20	(21.3)
APRIL	72	(8.2)	67	(8.5)	5	(5.3)
MAY	88	(10.0)	78	(9.9)	10	(10.6)
JUNE	73	(8.3)	62	(7.9)	11	(11.7)
SECOND QUARTER TOTAL	233	(26.5)	207	(26.4)	26	(27.7)
JULY	77	(8.8)	67	(8.5)	10	(10.6)
AUGUST	54	(6.1)	44	(5.6)	10	(10.6)
SEPTEMBER	64	(7.3)	56	(7.1)	8	(8.5)
THIRD QUARTER TOTAL	195	(22.2)	167	(21.3)	28	(29.8)
OCTOBER	73	(8.3)	68	(8.7)	5	(5.3)
NOVEMBER	85	(9.7)	75	(9.6)	10	(10.6)
DECEMBER	62	(7.1)	57	(7.3)	5	(5.3)
FOURTH QUARTER TOTAL	220	(25.0)	200	(25.5)	20	(21.3)

* Total does not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table XII presents the 1985 distribution of commitments by month and sex. Quarterly totals for all youths were fairly consistent, as they were the past two years. The third quarter was the lowest in all three years, contributing 22 or 23 percent in each year. "Peak" months were scattered across the year for 1985 and showed no definitive seasonal patterns. Quarterly differences were found in comparing boys' totals to girls', particularly in the first and third quarters of the year.

TABLE XIII

AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
<u>AGE:</u>						
9.0 - 12.5	13	92.9	1.7	1	7.1	1.1
12.6 - 13.5	38	90.5	4.8	4	9.5	4.3
13.5 - 14.5	86	85.2	11.0	15	14.9	16.0
14.6 - 15.5	229	88.1	29.2	31	11.9	33.0
15.6 - 16.5	256	88.9	32.6	32	11.1	34.0
16.6+	163	93.7	20.8	11	6.3	11.7
<u>RACE:</u>						
WHITE	510	89.3	65.0	61	10.7	64.9
BLACK	164	85.4	20.9	28	14.6	29.8
HISPANIC	104	96.3	13.3	4	3.7	4.3
OTHER	4	87.5	.9	1	12.5	1.1
<u>PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:</u>						
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	133	92.4	21.1	11	7.6	14.5
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	329	88.7	52.3	42	11.3	55.3
NEVER MARRIED	94	86.2	14.9	15	13.8	19.7
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	52	91.2	8.3	5	8.8	6.6
OTHER	21	87.5	3.3	3	12.5	4.0
<u>FAMILY INCOME:</u>						
\$0 - 5328	105	86.1	23.1	17	13.9	30.4
5329 - 7130	53	93.0	11.7	4	7.0	7.1
7131 - 10,188	73	85.9	16.1	12	14.1	21.4
10,189 - 17,316	96	88.1	21.2	13	11.9	23.2
17,317 +	127	92.7	28.0	10	7.3	17.9

Table XIII should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Male</u>			
Age	N	Row %	Column %
9.0-12.5	13	92.9	1.7

In 1985, there were 13 males committed to DYS between 9 and 12.5 years of age. These 13 males represented 92.9 percent of all youths in that age group. These 13 males also represented 1.7 percent of all males committed to DYS in 1985.

Age: By comparing column percentages across the table, we can examine the affect of sex on age at commitment. The age distribution of boys and girls was very similar, although the proportion of boys aged 16 and over was roughly double that of girls. The association between sex and age at commitment was not statistically significant.

Race: By comparing the column percentages for males and females we can examine racial distributions for both sexes. The distributions were similar, although male clients were somewhat less likely to be black and somewhat more likely to be Hispanic.

Parents' Marital Status: Comparing column percentages across for categories of parents' marital status, we find that 21.1 percent of the boys, compared with 14.5 percent of the girls, came from households where parents' marriages were intact. The association between sex and parents' marital status was not statistically significant.

Family Income: Column percentage distributions for boys and girls reveal that, unlike the past two years, income was differentially distributed by sex, with girls most likely falling into the lowest income category and boys into the highest category. The association between sex and family income was not statistically significant.

TABLE XIV

OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
<u>OFFENSE TYPE:</u>						
MURDER	2	66.7	0.3	1	33.3	1.1
MANSLAUGHTER	3	75.0	0.4	1	25.0	1.1
ARMED ASSAULT	71	88.8	9.0	9	11.3	9.6
UNARMED ASSAULT	68	86.1	8.7	11	13.9	11.7
ARMED ROBBERY	23	100.0	2.9	0	0.0	0.0
UNARMED ROBBERY	27	96.4	3.4	1	3.6	1.1
SEXUAL ASSAULT	43	100.0	5.5	0	0.0	0.0
KIDNAPPING	2	100.0	0.3	0	0.0	0.0
THREATS	9	100.0	1.2	0	0.0	0.0
ARSON	13	100.0	1.7	0	0.0	0.0
BURGLARY	196	95.6	25.0	9	4.4	9.6
LARCENY	136	85.0	17.3	24	15.0	25.5
RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS	26	96.3	3.3	1	3.7	1.1
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	42	91.3	5.4	4	8.7	4.3
SEX OFFENSES	3	33.3	0.4	6	66.7	6.4
MOTOR VEHICLE	51	86.4	6.5	8	13.6	8.5
PUBLIC ORDER	41	74.6	5.2	14	25.5	14.9
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	28	87.5	3.6	4	12.5	4.3
FRAUD	1	50.0	0.1	1	50.0	1.1
<u>CHARGE TYPE:</u>						
PERSON	249	91.5	31.7	23	8.5	24.5
PROPERTY	414	91.4	52.7	39	8.6	41.5
MOTOR VEHICLE	51	86.4	6.5	8	13.6	8.5
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	28	87.5	3.6	4	12.5	4.3
OTHER	43	68.3	5.5	20	31.8	21.3

Table XIV should be read as follows:

Example:

<u>Offense Type</u>	<u>Male</u>		
	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Column %</u>
Murder	2	66.7	0.3

In 1985, two boys were committed on murder charges. These two boys represented two-thirds of all youths committed for murder, as well as .3% of all boys committed in 1985.

How was client's sex related to the offense for which he or she was committed to DYS?

By reading down the column percentages we find that, as in the past two years, boys were most often committed for burglary (25.0 percent), followed by larceny (17.3 percent). Girls were most likely committed for larceny (25.5 percent), followed by public order offenses (14.9 percent), and unarmed assault (11.7 percent).

Comparing column percentages for charge type we find that for the first time in three years, the proportion of person offenders among boys (31.7 percent) was higher than among girls (24.5 percent). The proportion of girls falling into the "other" category, which includes public order and non-assaultive sex offenses, was nearly four times higher for girls than for boys.

The associations between clients' sex and offense type and clients' sex and charge type were both statistically significant.

TABLE XV

AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

	WHITE			BLACK			HISPANIC			OTHER		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
<u>AGE:</u>												
9.0 - 12.5	6	42.9	1.1	3	21.4	1.6	5	35.7	4.6	0	0.0	0.0
12.6 - 13.5	29	69.1	5.1	5	11.9	2.6	7	16.7	6.5	1	2.4	12.5
13.6 - 14.5	56	55.5	9.8	29	28.7	15.1	15	14.9	13.9	1	1.0	12.5
14.6 - 15.5	164	63.1	28.7	57	21.9	29.7	35	13.5	32.4	4	1.5	50.0
15.6 - 16.5	194	67.4	34.0	64	22.2	33.3	29	10.1	26.9	1	.4	12.5
16.6 - over	122	70.1	21.4	34	19.5	17.7	17	9.8	15.7	1	.6	12.5
<u>FAMILY INCOME</u>												
\$0-5328	63	51.6	19.5	36	29.5	31.0	21	17.2	33.3	2	1.6	25.0
5329 - 7130	29	50.9	9.0	12	21.1	10.3	16	28.1	25.4	0	0.0	0.0
7131 -10,188	53	62.4	16.4	16	18.8	13.8	14	16.5	22.2	2	2.4	25.0
10,189 - 17,316	68	62.4	21.1	32	29.4	27.6	9	8.3	14.3	0	0.0	0.0
17,317 +	110	80.3	34.1	20	14.6	17.2	3	2.2	4.8	4	2.9	50.0
<u>PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:</u>												
MARRIED + LIVING TOGETHER	121	84.0	24.1	10	6.9	9.4	12	8.3	13.5	1	0.7	12.5
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	279	75.2	55.6	47	12.7	44.3	41	11.1	46.1	4	1.1	50.0
NEVER MARRIED	53	48.6	10.6	33	30.3	31.1	21	19.3	23.6	2	1.8	25.0
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	36	63.2	7.2	10	17.5	9.4	10	17.5	11.2	1	1.8	12.5
OTHER	13	54.2	2.6	6	25.0	5.7	5	20.8	5.6	0	0.0	0.0

Table XV should be read as follows:

Example:

				<u>White</u>	
<u>Age</u>	.	<u>N</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Column %</u>	
9-12.5		6	42.9	1.1	

In 1985 there were six white youths committed between the ages of 9 and 12½. These six youths represented 42.9 percent of all youths aged 9-12.5. These six youths also represented 1.1 percent of all white youths.

Age: By comparing column percentages across the table, we can examine the affect of race on age at commitment. Racial differences in age at commitment were not statistically significant.

Family Income: By comparing column percentages across the table, we can examine the relationship between race and family income. As in the past two years, the relationship between race and family income was statistically significant, with Hispanic families falling into the lowest income categories.

Parents' Marital Status: By comparing column percentages across the table, we can examine the relationship between race and parents' marital status. The most prevalent marital status within every racial group was "divorced or separated." A substantial proportion of black youths' parents (31.9 percent) were never married. The relationship between race and marital status was statistically significant.

CHART IV

PERCENTAGES OF PERSON AND NON-PERSON OFFENDERS
BY AGE AT COMMITTING
1985 CRIMES



Appendix - Explanation of Missing Data

In certain instances the numbers of youths in individual categories may not add up to the total number of 1985 commitments, 879. The reason is that information collected on new commitments is not always available at the time of intake and in such cases is coded "missing data." Missing data are eliminated from the calculation of percentages and therefore do not affect the percentages reported.

For most variables, the data was collected on all 879 youths: sex, race, region, offense, age at commitment, and month of commitment. Data was missing for the following variables: parents' marital status (missing in 20 percent of the 879 cases), zip code (13 percent missing), family income (42 percent missing), court (.1 percent missing) and grade (5 percent missing).

- I Western Region
- II Central Region
- III Northeast Region
- IV Southeast Region
- V Metropolitan Boston Region







MASS. H560.3: 986

ANALYSIS OF COMMITMENTS, 1986
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
Edward J. Loughran, Commissioner

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

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INTRODUCTION

SECTION I CHANGES IN CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS

GRAPH 1	ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS 1981-1986
TABLE I	CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS 1985-1986
TABLE II	TYPE OF OFFENSE 1985-1986
GRAPH 2	CHARGE TYPE BY YEAR OF COMMITMENT 1980-1986
TABLE III	HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1985-1986
GRAPH 3	MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT 1981-1986
GRAPH 4	COMMITMENTS BY SEX 1986
GRAPH 5	COMMITMENTS BY RACE 1986

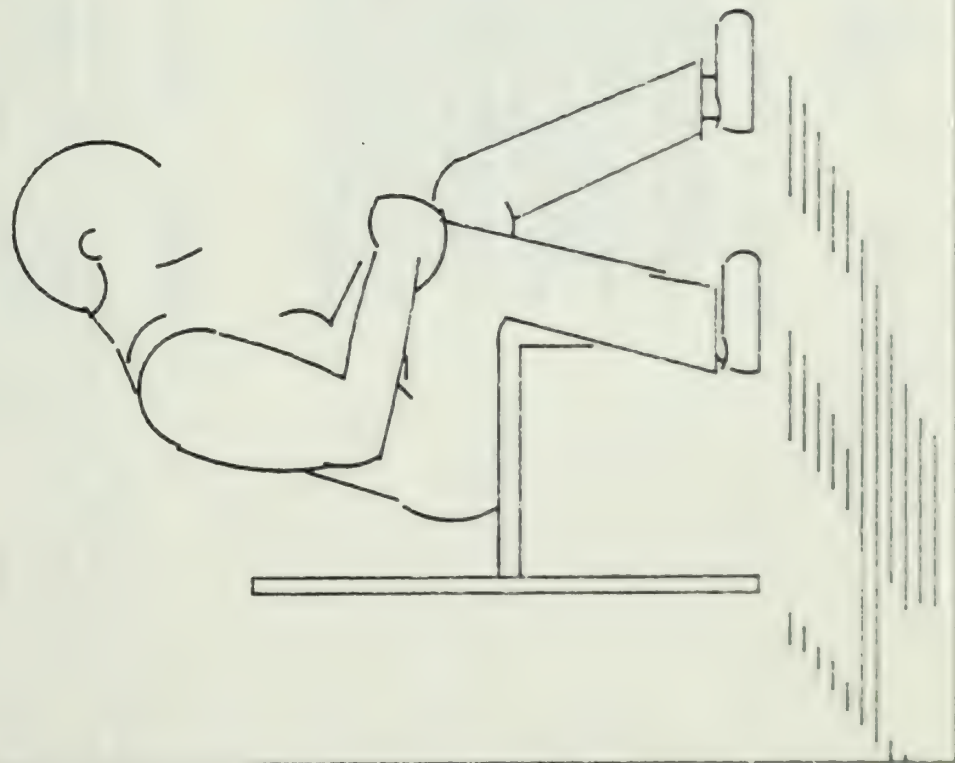
SECTION II CHARACTERISTICS OF 1986 COMMITMENTS BY REGION

TABLE V	RACE AND SEX BY REGION
TABLE VI	AGE AND INCOME BY REGION
GRAPH 6	CHARGE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE VII	CHARGE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE VIII	OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE IX	MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

GRAPH 7 LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION
 TABLE X LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION
 GRAPH 8 PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

SECTION III RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CLIENTS' DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

TABLE XI SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS
 TABLE XII MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY SEX
 TABLE XIII AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX
 TABLE XIV OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX
 GRAPH 9 FAMILY INCOME BY RACE
 TABLE XV AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

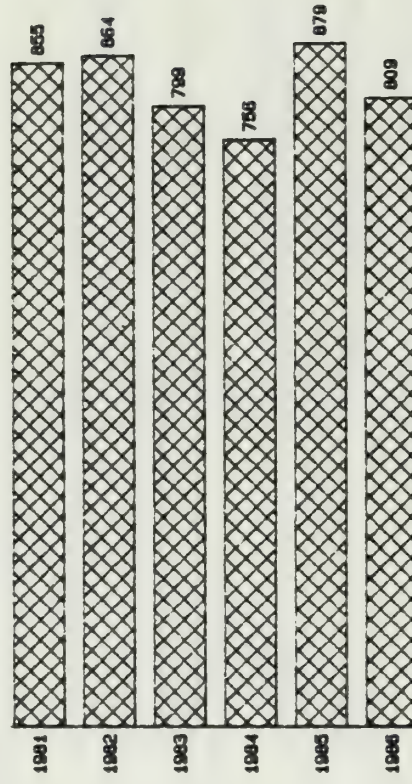


The typical newly committed youth is male, aged 15 years and eight months, white, and was judged by the court to be delinquent on the basis of a burglary or larceny offense. His family income is \$10,000, his parents are divorced or separated, and he has completed the eighth grade, putting him roughly two years below grade level.

GRAPH 1

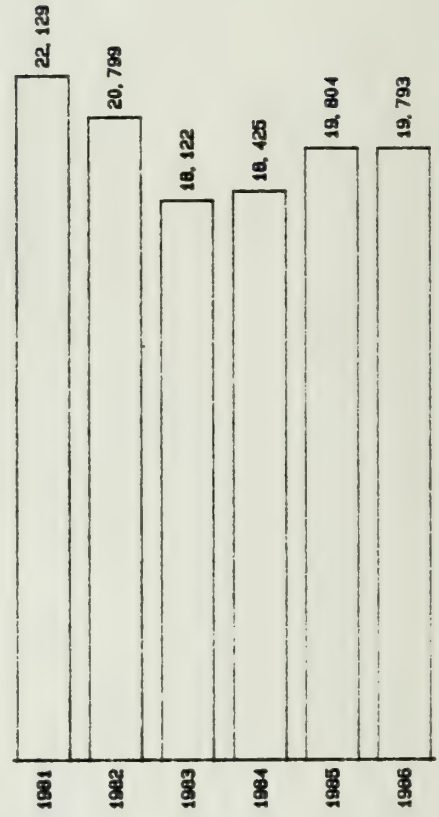
ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS
1981 - 1986

NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS



COMMITMENTS

NUMBER OF ARRAIGNMENTS



ARRAIGNMENTS

GRAPH 1 ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS 1981 - 1986

There were 809 newly committed youths in 1986, marking an 8.0 percent decrease over 1985, or a decline of 70 youths. The unusually high percentage increase between 1984 and 1985 (16 percent) made it likely that a stabilizing decrease would occur in 1986. The 1986 total registered an increase over 1983 and 1984, of 1.3 percent and 7.0 percent respectively.

The 1986 decline in commitments does not reflect a comparable drop in juvenile arraignments. Between 1985 and 1986, arraignments were virtually unchanged, falling by only 0.1 percent (from 19,804 to 19,793), a difference of 11 youths.

TABLE I
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS
1985-1986

	1985		1986		CHANGE 1985 - 1986		CHANGE 1983 - 1986	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS	879	100.0%	809	100.0%	-70	-8.0%	10	1.3%
AGE:								
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	14	1.6%	7	0.9%	-7	-50.0%	-5	-41.7%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	42	4.8%	30	3.7%	-12	-28.6%	-4	-11.8%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	101	11.5%	84	10.4%	-17	-16.8%	-12	-12.5%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	260	29.6%	220	27.2%	-40	-15.4%	51	30.2%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	288	32.8%	279	34.5%	-9	-3.1%	44	18.7%
16.6 +	174	19.8%	189	23.4%	15	8.6%	15	8.6%
SEX:								
MALE	785	89.3%	721	89.1%	-64	-8.2%	18	2.6%
FEMALE	94	10.7%	88	10.9%	-6	-6.4%	-6	-6.4%
RACE:								
WHITE	571	65.0%	521	64.4%	-50	-8.8%	-33	-6.0%
BLACK	192	21.8%	179	22.1%	-13	-6.8%	42	30.7%
HISPANIC	108	12.3%	100	12.4%	-8	-7.4%	8	8.7%
OTHER	8	0.9%	9	1.1%	1	12.5%	-3	-25.0%
REGION:								
WESTERN	184	20.9%	147	18.2%	-37	-20.1%	-35	-19.2%
CENTRAL	179	20.4%	157	19.4%	-22	-12.3%	17	12.1%
NORTHEAST	188	21.4%	157	19.4%	-31	-16.5%	3	1.9%
SOUTHEAST	132	15.0%	140	17.3%	8	6.1%	-28	-16.7%
METRO	196	22.3%	208	25.7%	12	6.1%	55	35.9%
CHARGE TYPE:								
PERSON	272	30.9%	223	27.6%	-49	-18.0%	18	8.8%
PROPERTY	453	51.5%	440	54.4%	-13	-2.9%	-2	-0.5%
MOTOR VEHICLE	59	6.7%	52	6.4%	-7	-11.9%	5	10.6%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	32	3.6%	35	4.3%	3	9.4%	12	52.2%
OTHER	63	7.2%	59	7.3%	-4	-6.3%	-17	-22.4%
FAMILY INCOME:								
0 - \$5,328	122	23.9%	109	18.3%	-13	-10.7%	-14	-11.4%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	57	11.2%	85	14.2%	28	49.1%	-9	-9.6%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	85	16.7%	106	17.8%	21	24.7%	-3	-2.8%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	109	21.4%	121	20.3%	12	11.0%	-12	-9.0%
\$17,317 +	137	26.9%	176	29.5%	39	28.5%	35	24.8%

TABLE I - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS 1985 - 1986

How have characteristics of incoming clients changed over the past three years? Table I presents comparative data for 1985-1986 and 1983-1986.

Age: Because of 1985's unusually high total number of commitments, all age groups decreased in 1986 with the exception of the oldest category (ages 16.6 and over).

There was an increase in the number of commitments between 1983 to 1986 in the three oldest categories, the highest of which was the group of juveniles aged 14.6 - 15.5 years old (30.2%).

Sex: The proportions of male and female commitments remained virtually unchanged from 1985 until 1986. Since 1983, there has been a minimal (2.6 percent) increase in the number of boys, and a 6.4 percent decline in the number of girls.

Race: All racial groups showed a decrease in commitments last year, with the exception of the "other" category. Over the three year period of 1983-1986, the number of whites decreased by 6 percent, while the number of blacks increased almost 31 percent.

Region: From 1985 to 1986, Western Region showed the largest decrease in commitments (-20.1%), while both Southeast and Metro Regions increased by 6.1 percent. The number of Metro Region youths increased by 36 percent between 1983 and 1986.

Charge Type: All categories, with the exception of controlled substances, decreased in 1986. Notable was an 18.0 percent decrease in youths charged with offenses against the person. Over the three-year period, the number of youths committed for controlled substance offenses increased by 12, or 52.2 percent.

Family Income: There is some indication, in both the one-year and three-year periods, that families earning less than \$5,000 are on the decline. At the same time, families earning above \$17,000 appear to be increasing.

None of the above changes between 1985 and 1986 was statistically significant.

TABLE II
TYPE OF OFFENSE
1985-1986

OFFENSE	1985		1986		CHANGE 1985 - 1986		CHANGE 1983 - 1986	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
MURDER	3	0.3%	2	0.2%	-1	-33.3%	-2	-50.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	4	0.5%	0	0.0%	-4	-100.0%	-3	-100.0%
ARMED ASSAULT	80	9.1%	76	9.4%	-4	-5.0%	17	28.8%
UNARMED ASSAULT	79	9.0%	62	7.7%	-17	-21.5%	-1	-1.6%
ARMED ROBBERY	23	2.6%	13	1.6%	-10	-43.5%	-4	-23.5%
UNARMED ROBBERY	28	3.2%	26	3.2%	-2	-7.1%	-2	-7.1%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	43	4.9%	39	4.8%	-4	-9.3%	15	62.5%
KIDNAPPING	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	-1	-50.0%	0	0.0%
THREATS, ETC.	9	1.0%	4	0.5%	-5	-55.6%	-1	-20.0%
OTHER PERSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	-----	-1	-100.0%
ARSON	13	1.5%	19	2.3%	6	46.2%	5	35.7%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	205	23.3%	169	20.9%	-36	-17.6%	-56	-24.9%
LARCENY	160	18.2%	163	20.1%	3	1.9%	35	27.3%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	27	3.1%	42	5.2%	15	55.6%	13	44.8%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	46	5.2%	44	5.4%	-2	-4.3%	-2	-4.3%
SEX OFFENSES	9	1.0%	5	0.6%	-4	-44.4%	-3	-37.5%
MOTOR VEHICLE	59	6.7%	52	6.4%	-7	-11.9%	5	10.6%
PUBLIC ORDER	55	6.3%	53	6.6%	-2	-3.6%	5	10.4%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	32	3.6%	35	4.3%	3	9.4%	12	52.2%
FRAUD	2	0.2%	3	0.4%	1	50.0%	3	-----
UNSPECIFIED DELINQUENCY	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	1	-----	-19	-95.0%

*POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS

TABLE II TYPE OF OFFENSE 1985 - 1986

What are the trends in offenses for which youths were committed?

HIGHLIGHTS

In 1986, as in previous years, the most prevalent offense categories were burglary (which includes all breaking and entering statutes) and possession of burglarious tools (20.9%), followed closely by larceny (20.1%). While these figures represent a 2.5 percent drop in burglary over the last three years, they also represent a 27 percent increase in larceny commitments for the same time period. A small but steadily increasing category of property offenses is receiving stolen property, which increased 56 percent between 1985 and 1986 and 45 percent between 1983 and 1986.

All categories involving offenses against the person decreased between 1985 and 1986, most notably unarmed assault (-22%) and armed robbery (-44%). Both of these offenses also decreased over the three year period from 1983 to 1986. The number of youths committed for sexual assault decreased by 9 percent during 1986, countering upward trends over the past several years.

GRAPH 2
CHARGE TYPE
1980 - 1986

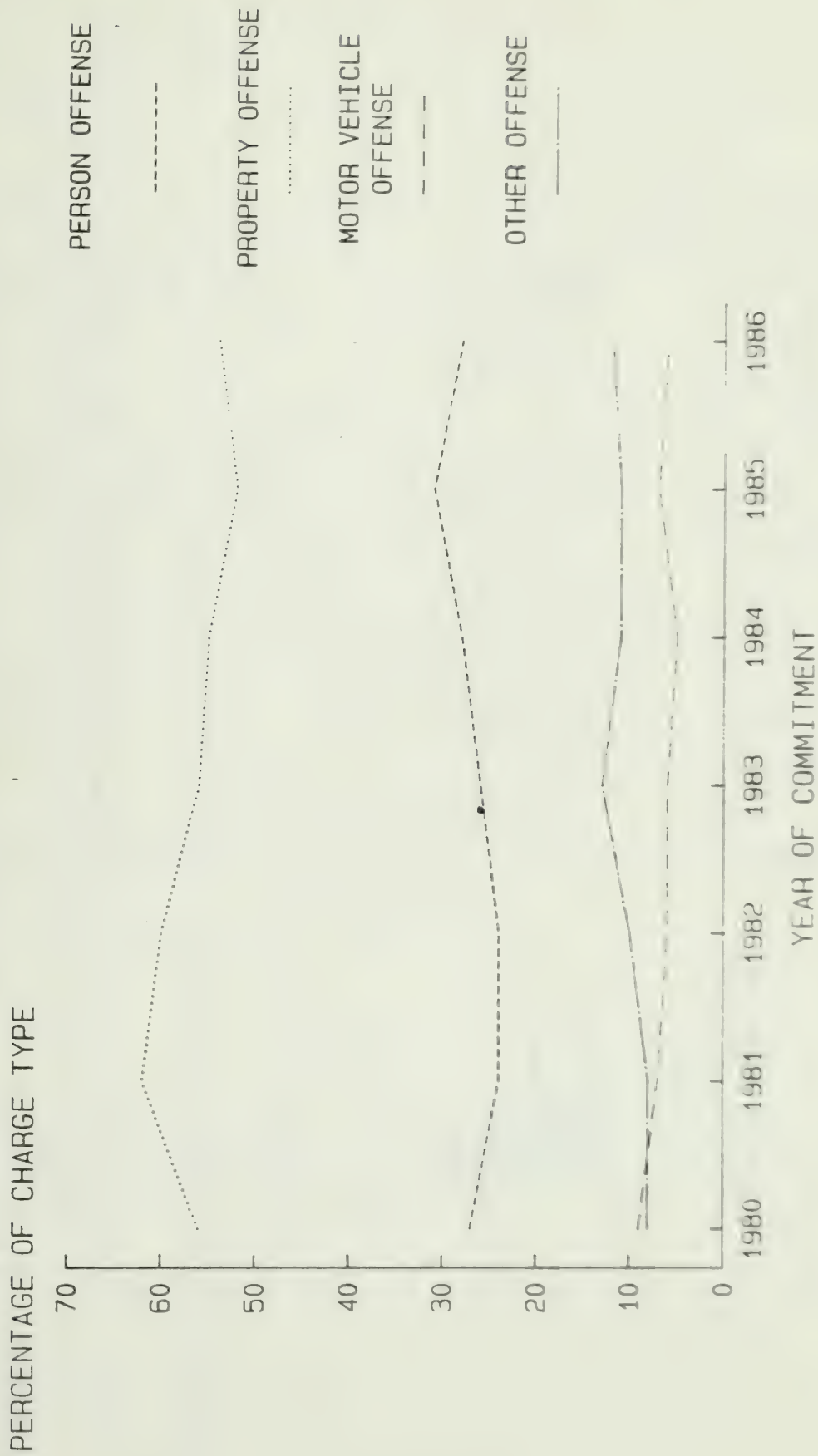


TABLE III
HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1985 - 1986

COURT AND ZIP CODE AREAS	1985		1986		1985 - 1986 CHANGE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
COURT						
BOSTON JUVENILE	77	8.8%	74	9.4%	-3	-3.9%
SPRINGFIELD JUVENILE	60	6.8%	44	5.6%	-16	-26.7%
DORCHESTER	51	5.8%	41	5.2%	-10	-19.6%
LAWRENCE	35	4.0%	37	4.7%	2	5.7%
WORCESTER JUVENILE	48	5.5%	36	4.6%	-12	-25.0%
LOWELL	41	4.7%	33	4.2%	-8	-19.5%
CAMBRIDGE	26	3.0%	25	3.2%	-1	-3.8%
HOLYOKE	37	4.2%	24	3.1%	-13	-35.1%
ROXBURY	17	1.9%	23	2.9%	6	35.3%
PITTSFIELD	13	1.5%	22	2.8%	9	69.2%
ZIP CODE						
DORCHESTER - CODMAN SQUARE (02124)	16	2.1%	29	4.6%	13	81.3%
HOLYOKE (01040)	40	5.1%	24	3.9%	-16	-40.0%
PITTSFIELD (01201)	13	1.7%	17	2.7%	4	30.8%
LYNN (01902)	13	1.7%	14	2.2%	1	7.7%
LAWRENCE (01841)	10	1.3%	12	1.9%	2	20.0%
QUINCY (02169)	9	1.2%	12	1.9%	3	33.3%

TABLE III HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1985 - 1986

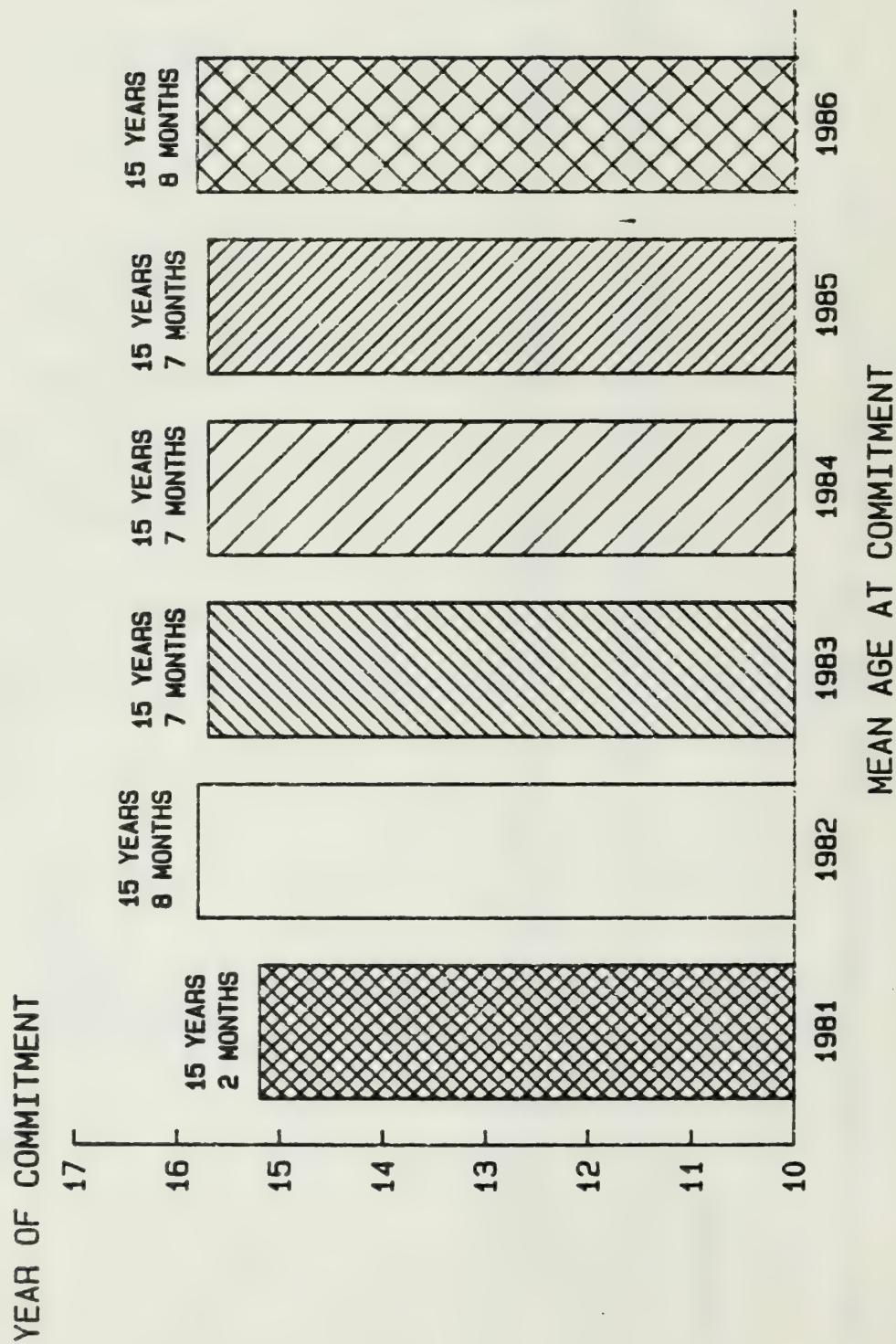
What courts and areas in Massachusetts contributed the most clients to DYS?

HIGHLIGHTS:

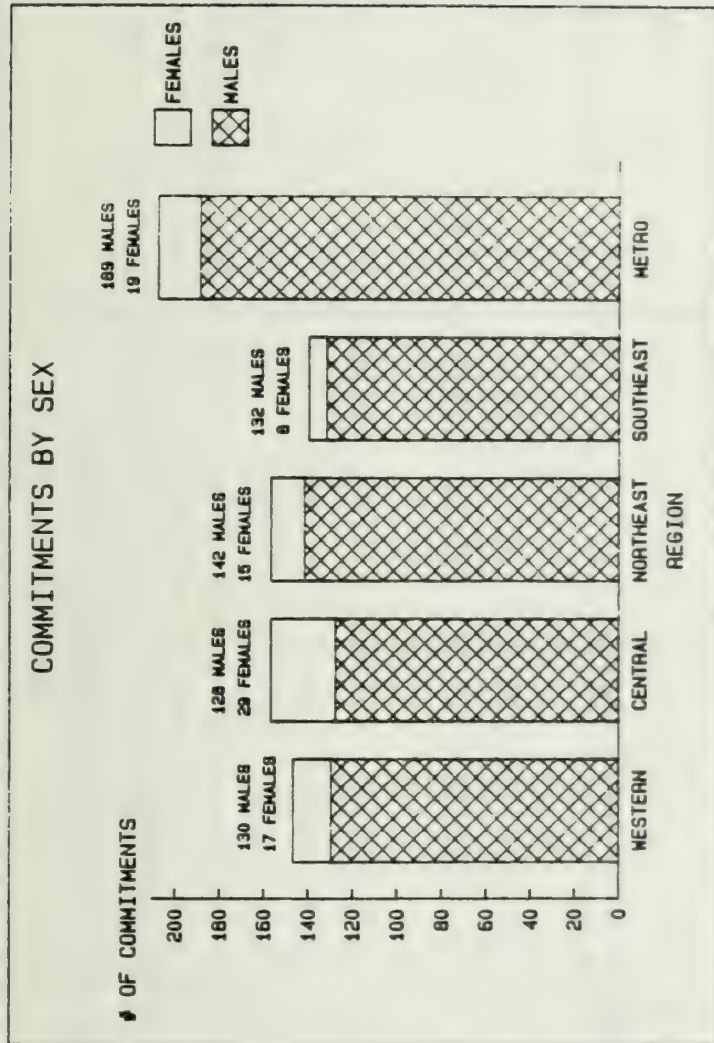
Table III lists the top 10 committing courts and six highest contributing zip code areas in 1986. Only two courts experienced substantial increases: Pittsfield (69%) and Roxbury (35%).

The top contributing zip code areas appear to fluctuate from year to year with only Dorchester/Codman Square and Holyoke carrying over from 1985.

GRAPH 3
 MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT
 1981 - 1986



GRAPH 4



GRAPH 5

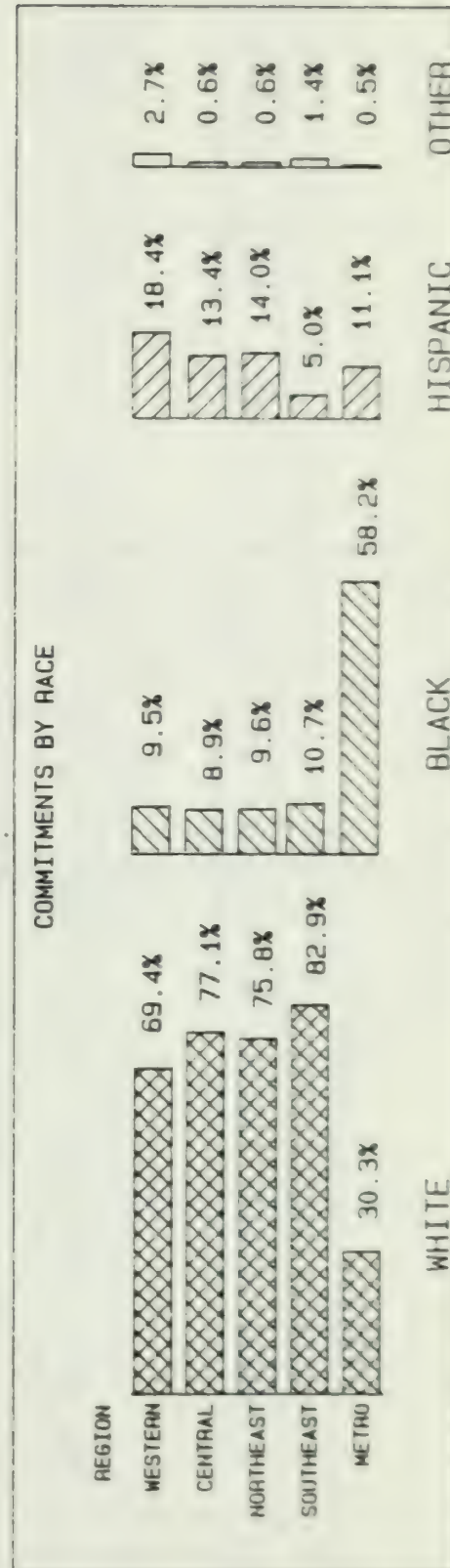


TABLE IV
SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
SEX:															
MALE	130	18.0%	88.4%	128	17.8%	81.5%	142	19.7%	90.5%	132	18.3%	94.3%	189	26.2%	90.9%
FEMALE	17	19.3%	11.6%	29	33.0%	18.5%	15	17.0%	9.6%	8	9.1%	5.7%	19	21.6%	9.1%
RACE:															
WHITE	102	19.6%	69.4%	121	23.2%	77.1%	119	22.8%	75.8%	116	22.3%	82.9%	63	12.1%	30.3%
BLACK	14	7.8%	9.5%	14	7.8%	8.9%	15	8.4%	9.6%	15	8.4%	10.7%	121	67.6%	58.2%
HISPANIC	27	27.0%	18.4%	21	21.0%	13.4%	22	22.0%	14.0%	7	7.0%	5.0%	23	23.0%	11.1%
OTHER	4	44.4%	2.7%	1	11.1%	0.6%	1	11.1%	0.6%	2	22.2%	1.4%	1	11.1%	0.5%
AGE AT COMMITMENT:															
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	3	42.9%	2.0%	2	28.6%	1.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	14.3%	0.7%	1	14.3%	0.5%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	6	20.0%	4.1%	4	13.3%	2.6%	9	30.0%	5.7%	7	23.3%	5.0%	4	13.3%	1.9%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	18	21.4%	12.2%	19	22.6%	12.1%	11	13.1%	7.0%	9	10.7%	6.4%	27	32.1%	13.0%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	42	19.1%	28.6%	52	23.6%	33.1%	37	16.8%	23.6%	32	14.5%	22.9%	57	25.9%	27.4%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	55	19.7%	37.4%	47	16.9%	29.9%	59	21.2%	37.6%	49	17.6%	35.0%	69	24.7%	33.2%
16.6 + OVER	23	12.2%	15.7%	33	17.5%	21.0%	41	21.7%	26.1%	42	22.2%	30.0%	50	26.5%	24.0%

TABLE IV SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

SEX:	WESTERN REGION		
	N	ROW%	COL%
MALE	130	18.0%	88.4%

In 1986, there were 130 males committed to DYS from the Western Region. These 130 males represented 18.0 percent of all males committed in 1986. These males also represented 88.4 percent of the commitments to the Western Region in 1986.

How do client characteristics vary by region? Regional client profiles may be compared by reading column percentages across the table.

HIGHLIGHTS:

As in 1985, the Southeast Region again showed a disproportionately high male population (94%), while the Central Region showed a disproportionately high female population (19%). The association between region and sex was statistically significant.

White youths predominated in every region except for Metropolitan Boston, continuing the trend over the last several years. The Hispanic population was less concentrated in the Western Region in 1986 compared to 1985, having dispersed more evenly across the other regions. The variations in racial distribution for 1986 were statistically significant.

More than one-fourth of the oldest commitments (age 16.6 and older) were found in the Metropolitan Boston Region, while the youngest commitments (9.0 - 12.5 years) were fairly evenly distributed over all the regions. This signifies a large drop in commitment proportions for the youngest age group in both the Western and Central Regions. The association between age and region was not statistically significant.

TABLE V
RACE AND SEX BY REGION

	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
WHITE MALES	88	19.3% 59.9%	97	21.2% 61.8%	108	23.6% 68.8%	110	24.1% 78.6%	54	11.8% 26.0%
WHITE FEMALES	14	21.9% 9.5%	24	37.5% 15.3%	11	17.2% 7.0%	6	9.4% 4.3%	9	14.1% 4.3%
BLACK MALES	13	7.8% 8.8%	12	7.2% 7.6%	15	9.0% 9.6%	14	8.4% 10.0%	112	67.5% 53.9%
BLACK FEMALES	1	3.2% 0.7%	2	6.5% 1.3%	0	0.0% 0.0%	6	19.4% 4.3%	22	71.0% 10.6%
HISPANIC MALES	25	39.1% 17.0%	18	28.1% 11.5%	18	28.1% 11.5%	2	3.1% 1.4%	1	1.6% 0.5%
HISPANIC FEMALES	2	10.5% 1.4%	3	15.8% 1.9%	4	21.1% 2.5%	1	5.3% 0.7%	9	47.4% 4.3%
OTHER MALES	4	50.0% 2.7%	1	12.5% 0.6%	1	12.5% 0.6%	1	12.5% 0.7%	1	12.5% 0.5%
OTHER FEMALES	0	----- 0.0%	0	----- 0.0%	0	----- 0.0%	0	----- 0.0%	0	----- 0.0%

TABLE V RACE AND SEX BY REGION

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

Race and Sex:	WESTERN REGION		
	N	Row%	Col%
White Male	88	19.3%	59.9%

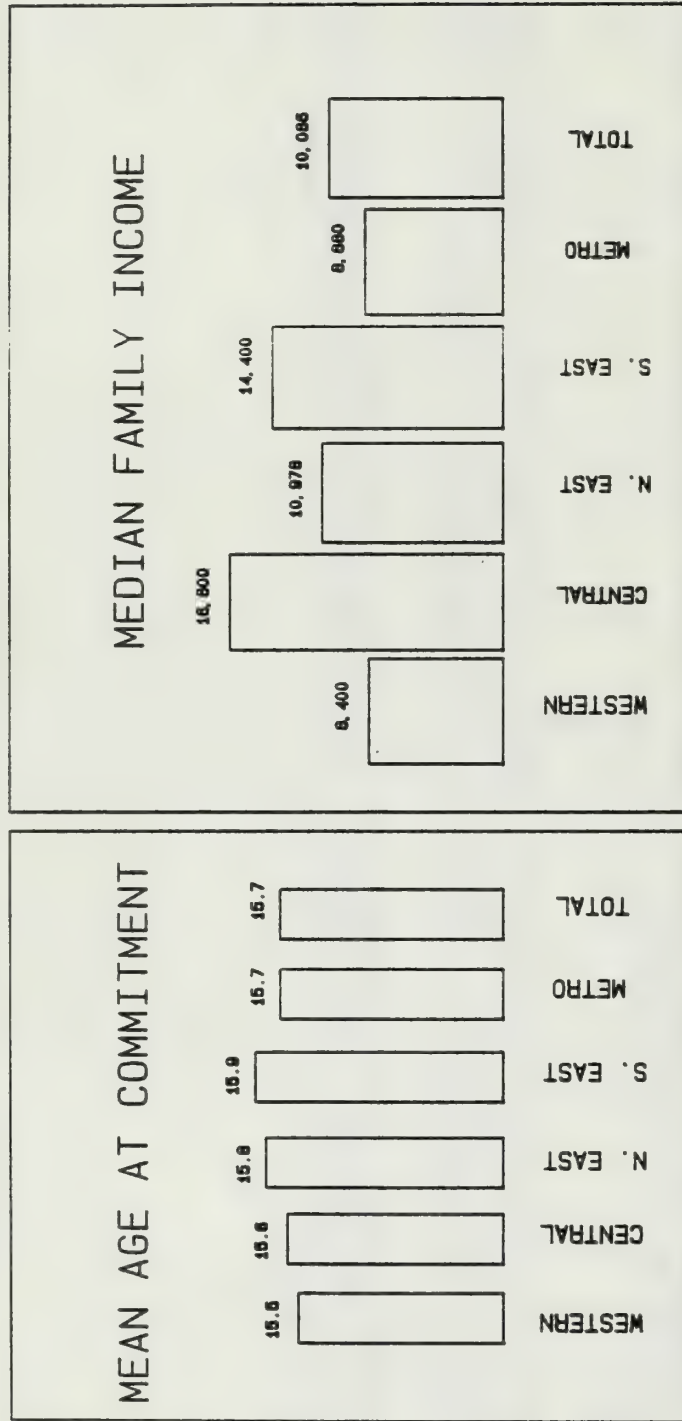
In 1986, there were 88 white males committed to the Western Region. These 88 youths represented 19.3 percent of all white males. These youths also represented 59.9 percent of all youths committed to the Western Region.

HIGHLIGHTS:

According to the column percentages across the table, Southeast Region had the highest preponderance of white males committed (78.6%); Central Region of white females (15.3%); Metro Region of black males and black females; and Western Region of Hispanic males. These percentages reflect a continuation of the race and sex patterns noted in 1985.

Comparison between the row percentages allows us to see whether or not distributions for girls and boys are similar. For example, nearly one-fourth of the Department's white males were committed to the Southeast Region, but only 9 percent of the white females were commitments in that region.

TABLE VI: AGE AND INCOME BY REGION



	WESTERN	CENTRAL	N. EAST	S. EAST	METRO	TOTAL
MEAN AGE	15.5	15.6	15.8	15.9	15.7	15.7
MEDIAN AGE	15.7	15.6	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0
LOWEST	10.6	12.3	12.8	12.5	12.6	12.3
HIGHEST	17.6	19.7	17.9	18.0	18.0	19.7

	WESTERN	CENTRAL	N. EAST	S. EAST	METRO	TOTAL
MEAN INCOME	\$12,488	\$21,464	\$13,704	\$16,294	\$11,407	\$14,428
MEDIAN INCOME	\$8,400	\$16,800	\$10,978	\$14,400	\$8,880	\$10,086
LOWEST	\$0	\$673	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HIGHEST	\$68,000	\$89,160	\$73,000	\$47,488	\$51,000	\$89,160

TABLE VI AGE AND INCOME

What are the regional variations in average client age and family income?

HIGHLIGHTS:

Table VI presents regional comparisons of client age at commitment and family income. "Average" age and income are represented by the mean and median. The lowest and highest age and incomes are also indicated.

In calculating average age, the mean is a more commonly reported statistic than the median. Average age ranged from 15.5 (15 years, 6 months) in Western Region, to 15.9 (15 years, 11 months) in Northeast. The variations in age were not statistically significant.

In calculating average income, the median is the most commonly reported statistic. Family incomes in Central Region were, on average, nearly 70 percent higher than the statewide median of \$10,086, while incomes in Western and Metropolitan Boston Regions were roughly 15 percent lower. The relationship between region and family income was statistically significant, even after accounting for regional differences in racial distributions.

GRAPH 6

CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

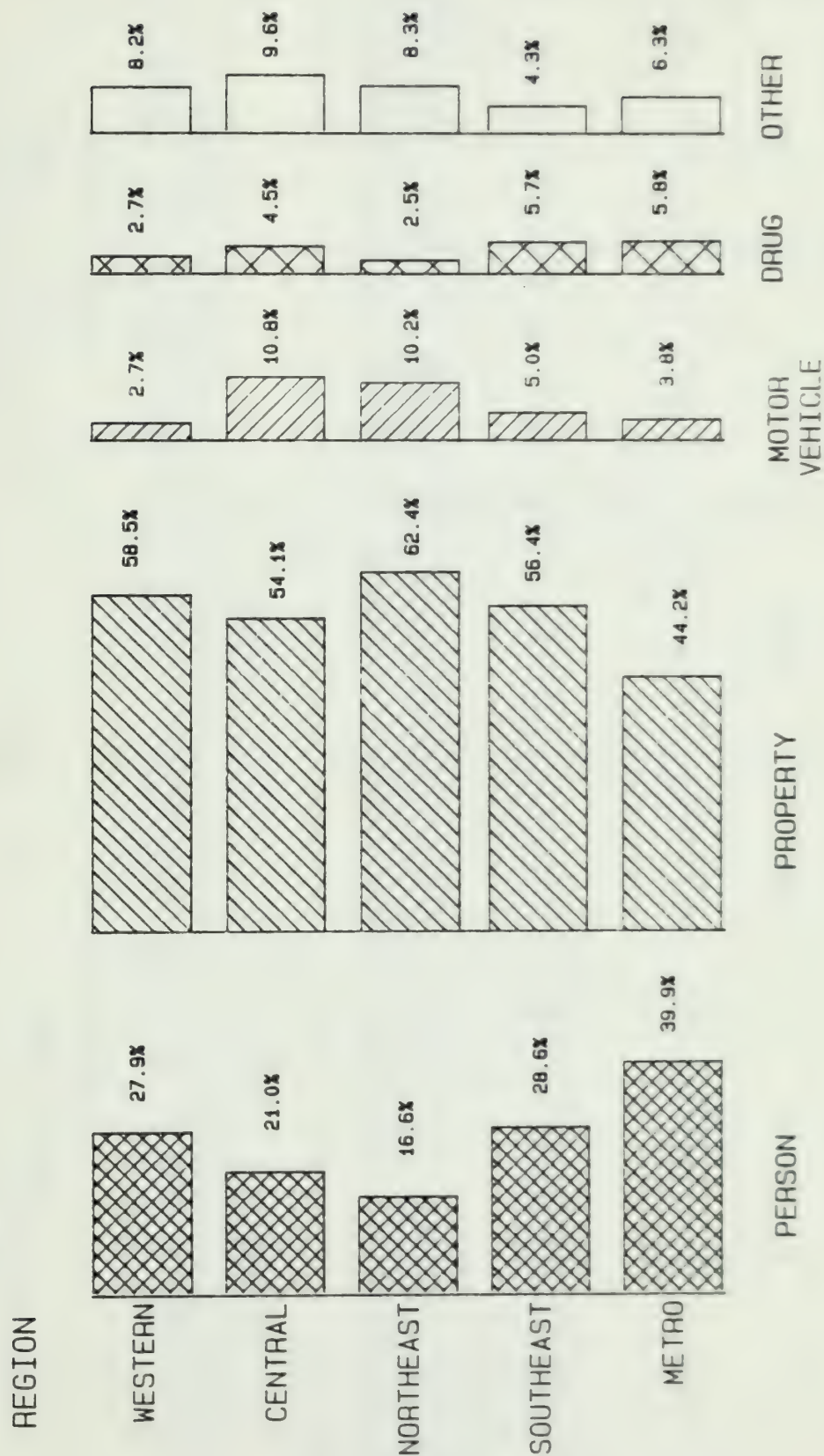


TABLE VII
CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

CHARGE TYPE	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGAINST PERSON	41	18.4%	27.9%	33	14.8%	21.0%	26	11.7%	16.6%	40	17.9%	28.6%	83	37.2%	39.9%
AGAINST PROPERTY	86	19.5%	58.5%	85	19.3%	54.1%	98	22.3%	62.4%	79	18.0%	56.4%	92	20.9%	44.2%
MOTOR VEHICLE	4	7.7%	2.7%	17	32.7%	10.8%	16	30.8%	10.2%	7	13.5%	5.0%	8	15.4%	3.8%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	4	11.4%	2.7%	7	20.0%	4.5%	4	11.4%	2.5%	8	22.9%	5.7%	12	34.3%	5.8%
OTHER	12	20.3%	8.2%	15	25.4%	9.6%	13	22.0%	8.3%	6	10.2%	4.3%	13	22.0%	6.3%

TABLE VII CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

Table VII should be read as follows:

Example:

Charge type:	WESTERN REGION		
	N	Row%	Col%
Against Person	41	18.4%	27.9%

In 1986, there were 41 youths committed to the Western Region for offenses against the person. These 41 youths represented 18.4 percent of all person offenders in 1986. These person offenders also represented 27.9 percent of the commitments from the Western Region.

How did commitment offenses vary by region in 1986?

HIGHLIGHTS:

Regional offense profiles may be compared by reading the column percentages across the table. Metropolitan Boston Region's high proportion of person offenders (40%) relative to the other regions sustains the pattern set in earlier years, although the proportion has dropped from 1985 by 5 percent. In all regions, youths were most likely to be committed for property offenses.

The association between region and charge type was significant only when white males and upper-income families were excluded.

TABLE VIII OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

Offense Type:	WESTERN REGION		
	N	Row%	Col%
Murder	2	100.0%	1.4%

In 1986, two youths were committed to the Western Region on murder charges. These were the only youths committed for murder in 1986. These youths represented 1.4 percent of all commitments to the Western Region.

How do offense profiles vary by region?

HIGHLIGHTS:

Burglary and larceny predominated as the two most common commitment charges in all regions except Metro, where armed assault followed larceny in order of frequency. This pattern has been consistent over the past several years.

Comparing row percentages across for offenses against the person with an N of 5 or more, Western Region had a disproportionately high share of unarmed assaults; Southeast and Metro of armed robberies; and Metro of unarmed robberies and sexual assaults.

Comparing row percentages across for property offenses the person with an N of 15 or more, Western Region had a disproportionate number of commitments for arson, Central and Northeast for motor vehicle offenses, and Metro for receiving stolen property and controlled substance offenses.

TABLE IX
MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
JANUARY	11	14.5%	7.5%	12	15.8%	7.6%	12	15.8%	7.6%	22	28.9%	15.7%	19	25.0%	9.1%
FEBRUARY	20	26.0%	13.6%	17	22.1%	10.8%	15	19.5%	9.6%	7	9.1%	5.0%	18	23.4%	8.7%
MARCH	5	9.6%	3.4%	13	25.0%	8.3%	8	15.4%	5.1%	11	21.2%	7.9%	15	28.8%	7.2%
APRIL	23	24.0%	15.6%	15	15.6%	9.6%	17	17.7%	10.8%	18	18.8%	12.9%	23	24.0%	11.1%
MAY	10	18.5%	6.8%	9	16.7%	5.7%	11	20.4%	7.0%	11	20.4%	7.9%	13	24.1%	6.3%
JUNE	13	19.7%	8.8%	21	31.8%	13.4%	13	19.7%	8.3%	6	9.1%	4.3%	13	19.7%	6.3%
JULY	11	16.7%	7.5%	9	13.6%	5.7%	15	22.7%	9.6%	16	24.2%	11.4%	15	22.7%	7.2%
AUGUST	8	15.1%	5.4%	8	15.1%	5.1%	9	17.0%	5.7%	16	30.2%	11.4%	12	22.6%	5.8%
SEPTEMBER	9	16.4%	6.1%	8	14.5%	5.1%	9	16.4%	5.7%	11	20.0%	7.9%	18	32.7%	8.7%
OCTOBER	14	19.2%	9.5%	13	17.8%	8.3%	16	21.9%	10.2%	6	8.2%	4.3%	24	32.9%	11.5%
NOVEMBER	13	20.0%	8.8%	13	20.0%	8.3%	11	16.9%	7.0%	10	15.4%	7.1%	18	27.7%	8.7%
DECEMBER	10	13.2%	6.8%	19	25.0%	12.1%	21	27.6%	13.4%	6	7.9%	4.3%	20	26.3%	9.6%

TABLE IX MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

Table IX should be read as follows:

Example:

WESTERN REGION			
Month	N	Row%	Col%
January	11	14.5%	7.5%

In January, there were 11 youths committed to the Western Region. These 11 youths represented 14.5 percent of all youths committed to DYS in January. These youths also represented 7.5 percent of the commitments to the Western Region in 1986.

GRAPH 7

LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

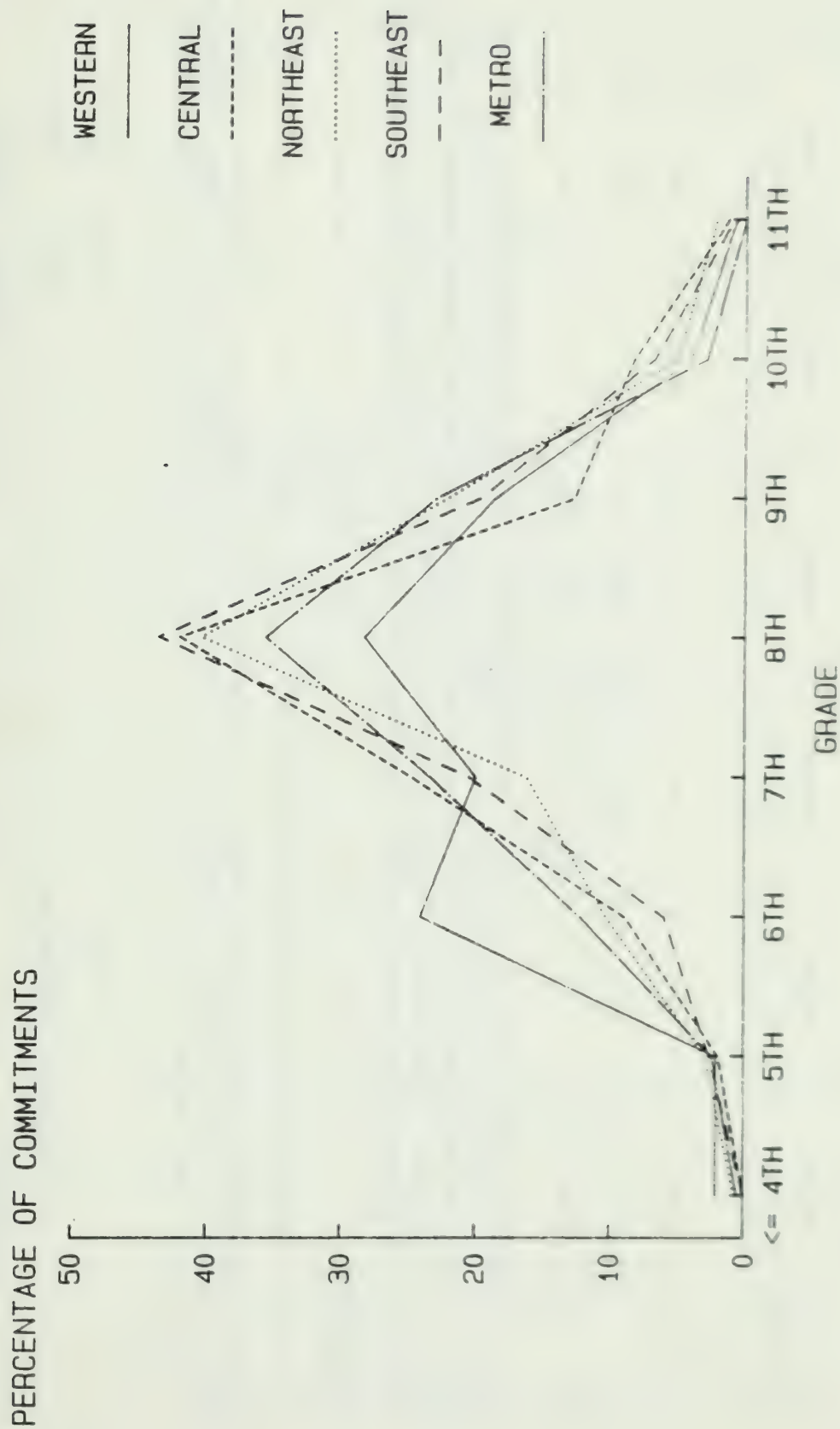


TABLE X
LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

LAST GRADE COMPLETED	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		MLTRO		TOTAL	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
<= 4TH	3	60.0% 2.1%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	20.0% 0.7%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	20.0% 0.5%	5	100.0% 0.7%
5TH	3	16.7% 2.1%	3	16.7% 1.9%	4	22.2% 2.9%	3	16.7% 2.6%	5	27.8% 2.4%	18	100.0% 2.4%
6TH	35	36.8% 24.1%	14	14.7% 8.9%	14	14.7% 10.3%	7	7.4% 6.0%	25	26.3% 12.2%	95	100.0% 12.5%
7TH	29	17.9% 20.0%	39	24.1% 24.8%	22	13.6% 16.2%	24	14.8% 20.5%	48	29.6% 23.4%	162	100.0% 21.3%
8TH	41	14.3% 28.3%	66	23.1% 42.0%	55	19.2% 40.4%	51	17.8% 43.6%	73	25.5% 35.6%	286	100.0% 37.6%
9TH	27	18.4% 18.6%	20	13.6% 12.7%	30	20.4% 22.1%	23	15.6% 19.7%	47	32.0% 22.9%	147	100.0% 19.3%
10TH	6	15.0% 4.1%	13	32.5% 8.3%	7	17.5% 5.1%	8	20.0% 6.8%	6	15.0% 2.9%	40	100.0% 5.3%
11TH	1	14.3% 0.7%	2	28.6% 1.3%	3	42.9% 2.2%	1	14.3% 0.9%	0	0.0% 0.0%	7	100.0% 0.9%

TABLE X LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

Last grade completed	WESTERN REGION		
	N	Row%	Col%
<= 4th	3	60.0%	2.1%

In 1986, there were 3 youths committed to the Western Region with no higher than a 4th grade education. These youths represented 60.0 percent of all youths at the lowest grade level category. These youths also represented 2.1 percent of all commitments to the Western Region.

How do clients' grade levels vary by region?

HIGHLIGHTS:

When the total column percentages are added through the 8th grade, we find that three-fourths of the new commitments completed the 8th grade statewide. In 1985, Metro Region handled a disproportionate number of youths who had not completed education beyond the 8th grade; in 1986, the region's proportions were similar to other regions in that regard. The association between region and grade level in 1986 was statistically significant.

GRAPH 8

PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

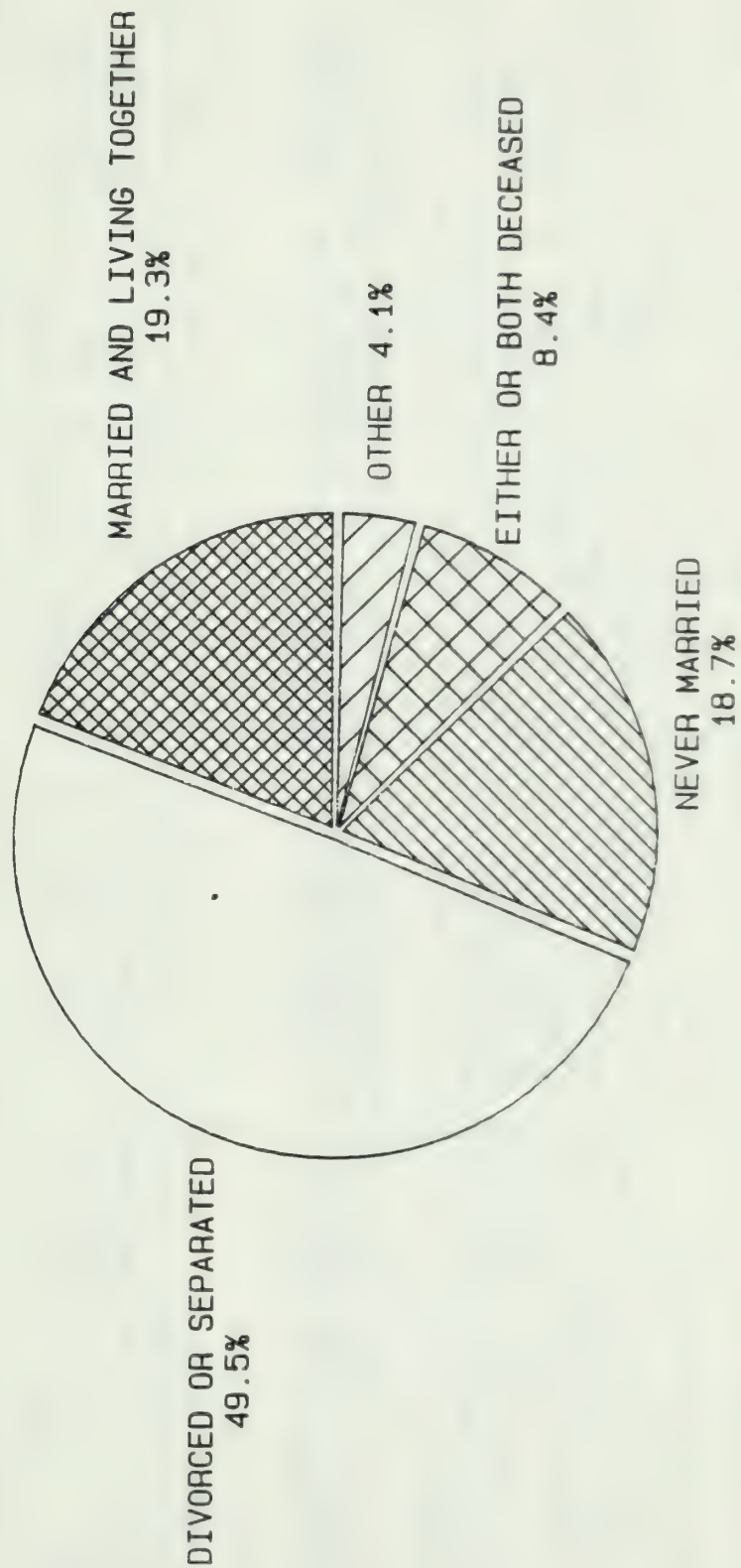


TABLE XI
SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

	I		II		III		IV		V	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
SEX	138	19.3%	354	49.5%	134	18.7%	60	8.4%	29	4.1%
CHARGE TYPE	127	19.9%	311	48.8%	120	18.8%	53	8.3%	27	4.2%
	11	14.3%	43	55.8%	14	18.2%	7	9.1%	2	2.6%
PERSON PROPERTY MOTOR VEHICLE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OTHER	38	19.7%	85	44.0%	46	23.8%	18	9.3%	6	3.1%
	70	17.7%	211	53.4%	63	16.0%	31	7.9%	20	5.1%
REGION	10	20.8%	22	45.8%	8	16.7%	6	12.5%	2	4.2%
	8	26.7%	16	53.3%	6	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
WESTERN CENTRAL NORTHEAST SOUTHEAST METRO	12	24.5%	20	40.8%	11	22.5%	5	10.2%	1	2.0%
	28	19.4%	69	47.9%	26	18.1%	14	9.7%	7	4.9%
	31	22.1%	73	52.1%	13	9.3%	17	12.1%	6	4.3%
	28	18.9%	75	50.7%	27	18.2%	11	7.4%	7	4.7%
	30	23.8%	67	53.2%	18	14.3%	7	5.6%	4	3.2%
	21	13.4%	70	44.6%	50	31.9%	11	7.0%	5	3.2%

MARITAL STATUS CODES:
I = MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER
II = DIVORCED OR SEPARATED
III = NEVER MARRIED
IV = EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED
V = OTHER

TABLE XI SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

I (Married and Living Together)

Sex:	N	Row%	Col%
Male	127	19.9%	92.0%

In 1986, 127 boys were committed whose natural parents were married and living together at the time of commitment. These 127 youths with married parents represented 19.9 percent of all boys. These boys also represented 92.0 percent of all commitments with married parents.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Total figures show that, as in the past three years, roughly half of the 1986 commitments (49.5%) came from homes where parents are divorced or separated. As in previous years, roughly one-fifth of the youths came from households where parents are married and living together.

When row percentages are compared for males and females, we find that females tended to come from divorced or separated family situations as opposed to intact households. The association between sex and parents' marital status was not statistically significant, however.

The offense distribution for each marital status can be determined by examining column percentages for categories of charge type. As in the past three years, youths whose parents never married (category III) were more likely than other youths to be committed for an offense against the person. The overall associations between marital status and offense were not statistically significant.

Comparing down the row percentages for the married and living together category, Metro region had the lowest proportion of youths with intact families (13%). The variations across regions were found to be statistically significant.

TABLE XII
MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY SEX

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	TOTAL		MALE		FEMALE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
JANUARY	809	100.0%	721	100.0%	88	100.0%
FEBRUARY	76	9.4%	68	9.4%	8	9.1%
MARCH	77	9.5%	64	8.9%	13	14.8%
FIRST QUARTER TOTAL	52	6.4%	47	6.5%	5	5.7%
APRIL	205	25.3%	179	24.8%	26	29.5%
MAY	96	11.9%	86	11.9%	10	11.4%
JUNE	54	6.7%	48	6.7%	6	6.8%
SECOND QUARTER TOTAL	66	8.2%	58	8.0%	8	9.1%
JULY	216	26.7%	192	26.6%	24	27.3%
AUGUST	66	8.2%	62	8.6%	4	4.5%
SEPTEMBER	53	6.6%	51	7.1%	2	2.3%
THIRD QUARTER TOTAL	55	6.8%	48	6.7%	7	8.0%
OCTOBER	174	21.5%	161	22.3%	13	14.8%
NOVEMBER	73	9.0%	64	8.9%	9	10.2%
DECEMBER	65	8.0%	58	8.0%	7	8.0%
FOURTH QUARTER TOTAL	76	9.4%	67	9.3%	9	10.2%
	214	26.5%	189	26.2%	25	28.4%

TABLE XII MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY SEX

Table XII presents the 1986 distribution of commitments by month and sex. While quarterly totals for both male and female combined are consistent, we find that third quarter totals for females differed markedly (14.8%) from the second (27.3%) and fourth (28.4%) quarter totals. Overall, the third quarter was the lowest point, as it has been in the last few years.

TABLE XIII
AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGE:						
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	7	100.0%	1.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	25	83.3%	3.5%	5	16.7%	5.7%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	68	81.0%	9.4%	16	19.0%	18.2%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	198	90.0%	27.5%	22	10.0%	25.0%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	248	88.9%	34.4%	31	11.1%	35.2%
16.6 +	175	92.6%	24.3%	14	7.4%	15.9%
RACE:						
WHITE	457	87.7%	63.4%	64	12.3%	72.7%
BLACK	166	92.7%	23.0%	13	7.3%	14.8%
HISPANIC	89	89.0%	12.3%	11	11.0%	12.5%
OTHER	9	100.0%	1.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:						
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	127	92.0%	19.9%	11	8.0%	14.3%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	311	87.9%	48.8%	43	12.2%	55.8%
NEVER MARRIED	120	89.6%	18.8%	14	10.5%	18.2%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	53	88.3%	8.3%	7	11.7%	9.1%
OTHER	27	93.1%	4.2%	2	6.9%	2.6%
FAMILY INCOME:						
\$0 - \$5,328	94	86.2%	17.3%	15	13.8%	27.3%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	81	95.3%	14.9%	4	4.7%	27.3%
\$7,131 - \$16,188	95	89.6%	17.5%	11	10.4%	20.0%
\$16,189 - \$17,316	111	91.7%	20.5%	10	8.3%	18.2%
\$17,317 +	161	91.5%	29.7%	15	8.5%	27.3%

TABLE XIII AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

		MALE	
AGE:		N	Row% Col%
9.0 - 12.5		7	100.0% 1.0%

In 1986, there were 7 males committed to DYS between 9.0 and 12.5 years of age. These 7 males represented 100.0 percent of all youths in that age group. These 7 males also represented 1.0 percent of all males committed to DYS in 1986.

HIGHLIGHTS:

AGE:

By comparing column percentages across the table, we can examine the affect of sex on age at commitment. There were proportionately more girls than boys at the younger age range, and at the same time there were more boys than girls in the oldest (16.6 and over) category. The differences were not statistically significant, however.

RACE:

By comparing the column percentages for males and females we can examine racial distributions for both sexes. Male clients were somewhat more likely to be black (23%) than female clients (15%).

PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:

When column percentages are compared, we find that 19.9 percent of the boys, compared with 14.5 percent of the girls, came from intact families. The relationship between sex and parents' marital status was not statistically significant.

FAMILY INCOME:

The distribution for 1986 is similar to 1985 in that girls were proportionately more likely to fall into the lowest income category (27.3%) than were boys (17.3%). The association between sex and family income was not statistically significant.

TABLE XIV
OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX

OFFENSE TYPE	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
MURDER	2	100.0%	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	0	---	0.0%	0	---	0.0%
ARMED ASSAULT	71	93.4%	9.9%	5	6.6%	5.7%
UNARMED ASSAULT	51	82.3%	7.1%	11	17.7%	12.5%
ARMED ROBBERY	11	84.6%	1.5%	2	15.4%	2.3%
UNARMED ROBBERY	25	96.2%	3.5%	1	3.8%	1.1%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	39	100.0%	5.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
KIDNAPPING	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	100.0%	1.1%
THREATS, ETC.	3	75.0%	0.4%	1	25.0%	1.1%
ARSON	19	100.0%	2.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	160	94.7%	22.2%	9	5.3%	10.2%
LARCENY	141	86.5%	19.5%	22	13.5%	25.0%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	42	100.0%	5.8%	0	0.0%	0.0%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	38	86.4%	5.3%	6	13.6%	6.8%
SEX OFFENSES	2	40.0%	0.3%	3	60.0%	3.4%
MOTOR VEHICLE	43	82.7%	6.0%	9	17.3%	10.2%
PUBLIC ORDER	40	75.5%	5.6%	13	24.5%	14.8%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	31	88.6%	4.3%	4	11.4%	4.6%
FRAUD	2	66.7%	0.3%	1	33.3%	1.1%
UNSPECIFIED DELINQUENCY	1	100.0%	0.1%	0	0.0%	0.0%
CHARGE TYPE						
PERSON	202	90.6%	28.0%	21	9.4%	23.9%
PROPERTY	402	91.4%	55.8%	38	8.6%	43.2%
MOTOR VEHICLE	43	82.7%	6.0%	9	17.3%	10.2%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	31	88.6%	4.3%	4	11.4%	4.6%
OTHER	43	72.9%	6.0%	16	27.1%	18.2%

* Possession of Burglarious Tools

TABLE XIV OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

		MALE	
Offense Type	N	Row%	Col%
Murder	2	100.0%	0.3%

In 1986, there 2 males committed to DYS for murder. These males represented 100.0 percent of the commitments to DYS for murder. These males also represented 0.3 percent of all males committed to the Department.

How was the client's sex related to the offense for which he or she was committed to DYS?

HIGHLIGHTS:

By reading the column percentages, we see males were most often committed for burglary (22%) and larceny (20%), continuing a trend from the last three years. Females, however, were predominately committed for larceny (25%), followed by public disorder offenses (15%) and un-armed assault (13%), also continuing a trend from 1985.

Whereas commitments for crimes against property were highest for both males (56%) and females (43%), a large disparity occurs under the 'other' charge type category. This category includes public order and non-assaultive sex offenses. Girls (18.2%) were three times more likely than boys (6.0%) to be committed on these charges.

The association between sex and charge type was statistically significant.

GRAPH 9

FAMILY INCOME BY RACE

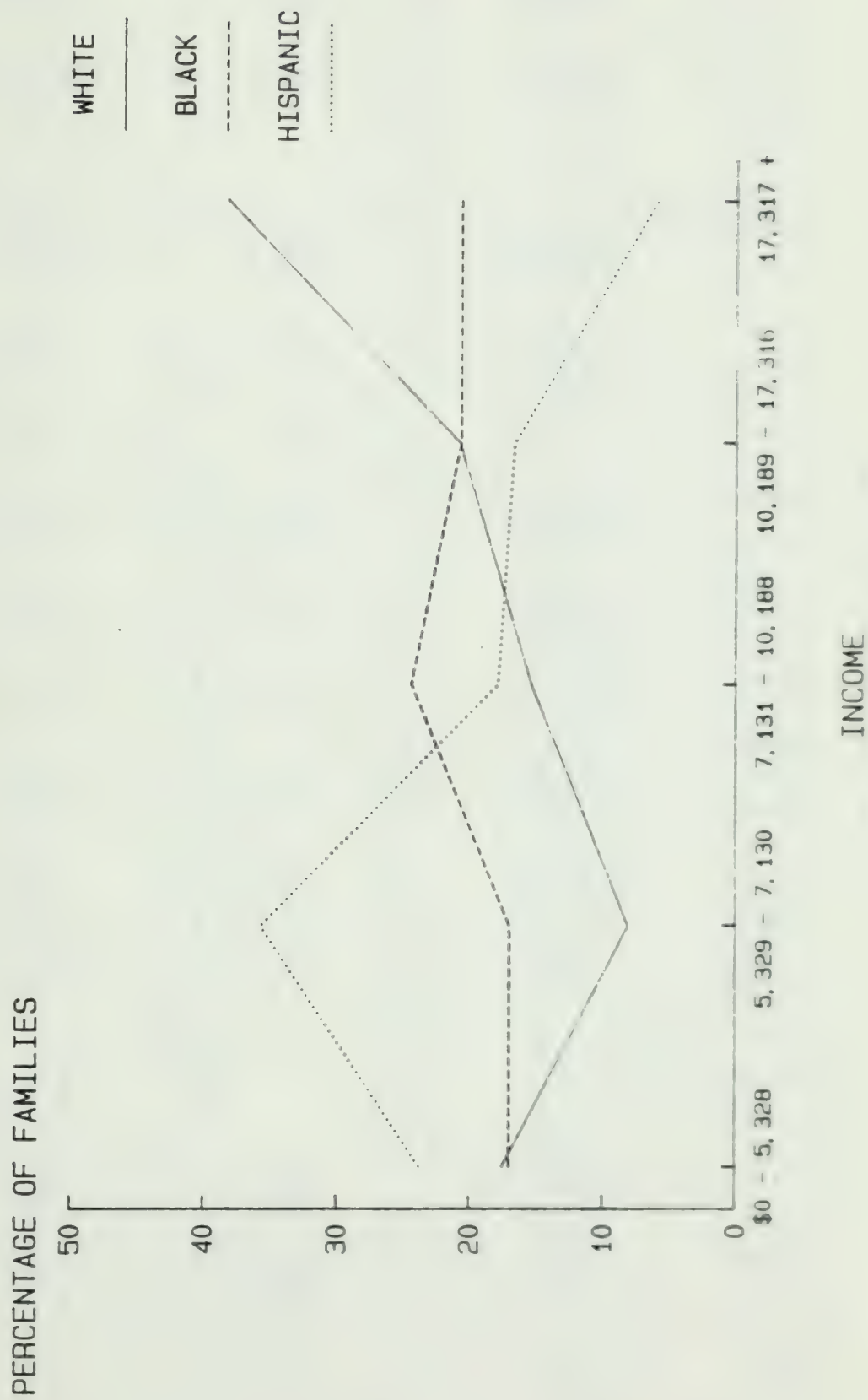


TABLE XV
AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

	WHITE			BLACK			HISPANIC			OTHER		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGE:												
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	3	42.9%	0.6%	2	28.6%	1.1%	2	28.6%	2.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	17	56.7%	3.3%	7	23.3%	3.9%	5	16.7%	5.0%	1	3.3%	11.1%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	49	58.3%	9.4%	23	27.4%	12.9%	11	13.1%	11.0%	1	1.2%	11.1%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	139	63.2%	26.7%	48	21.8%	26.8%	29	13.2%	29.0%	4	1.8%	44.4%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	191	68.5%	36.7%	58	20.8%	32.4%	27	9.7%	27.0%	3	1.1%	33.3%
16.6 +	122	64.6%	23.4%	41	21.7%	22.9%	26	13.8%	26.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
FAMILY INCOME:												
\$0 - \$5,328	65	59.6%	17.5%	23	21.1%	17.0%	20	18.3%	23.8%	1	0.9%	14.3%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	30	35.3%	8.1%	23	27.1%	17.0%	30	35.3%	35.7%	2	2.4%	28.6%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	57	53.8%	15.4%	33	31.1%	24.4%	15	14.2%	17.9%	1	0.9%	14.3%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	77	63.6%	20.8%	28	23.1%	20.7%	14	11.6%	16.7%	2	1.7%	28.6%
\$17,317 +	142	80.7%	38.3%	28	15.9%	20.7%	5	2.8%	6.0%	1	0.6%	14.3%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:												
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	108	78.3%	22.6%	19	13.8%	13.4%	11	8.0%	12.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	256	72.3%	53.6%	49	13.8%	34.5%	45	12.7%	51.7%	4	1.1%	50.0%
NEVER MARRIED	49	36.6%	10.3%	61	45.5%	43.0%	22	16.4%	25.3%	2	1.5%	25.0%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	46	76.7%	9.6%	9	15.0%	6.3%	4	6.7%	4.6%	1	1.7%	12.5%
OTHER	19	65.5%	4.0%	4	13.8%	2.8%	5	17.2%	5.8%	1	3.5%	12.5%

TABLE XV AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

This table should be read as follows:

Example:

WHITE			
AGE:	N	Row%	Col%
9.0 - 12.5	3	42.9%	0.6%

In 1986, there were three white youths committed between the ages of 9.0 and 12.5 years of age. These three youths represented 42.9 percent of all youths aged 9.0 - 12.5 years. These three youths also represented 0.6 percent of all white youths.

HIGHLIGHTS:

AGE:

By comparing column percentages across the table, we can examine the affect of race on age at commitment. Hispanic youths were somewhat more likely to be committed at a younger age than black and white youths. The overall relationship was not statistically significant, however.

FAMILY INCOME:

By comparing column percentages across the tables, we can examine the relationship between race and family income. As in the last three years, the association between race and family income was statistically significant, with Hispanic families falling into the lowest income categories. The relationship between race and family income was statistically significant.

PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:

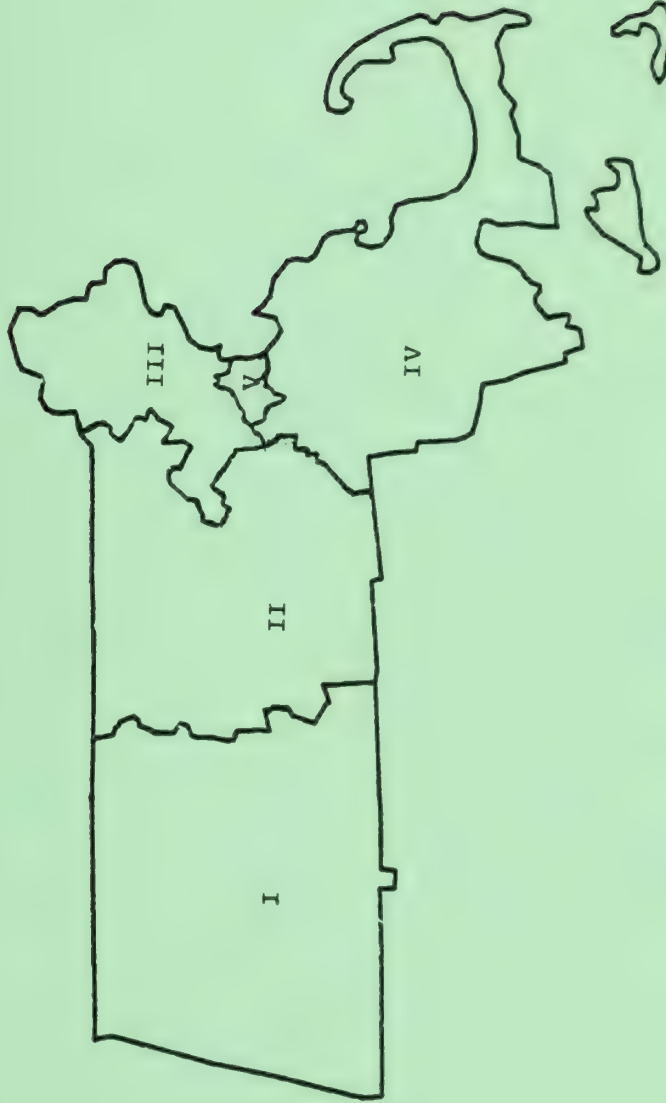
By comparing column percentages across the table, we can note any relationship between race and parents' marital status. As in previous years, "divorced and separated" was the most common family situation for all racial groups. A high proportion of black youths' parents (43.0%) were never married. The association between race and parents' marital status was statistically significant.

APPENDIX - EXPLANATION OF MISSING DATA

In certain instances the numbers of youths in individual categories may not add up to the total number of 1986 commitments, 809. The reason is that information collected on new commitments is not always available at the time of intake and in such cases is coded missing data". Missing data are eliminated from the calculation of percentages and therefore do not affect the percentages reported.

For most variables, the data was collected on all 809 youths : sex, race, offense, age at commitment, region, and month of commitment. Data were missing for the following variables: parents' marital status (in 12 percent of the 809 cases), zip code (22 percent missing), family income (26 percent), court (3 percent missing) and grade (6 percent missing).

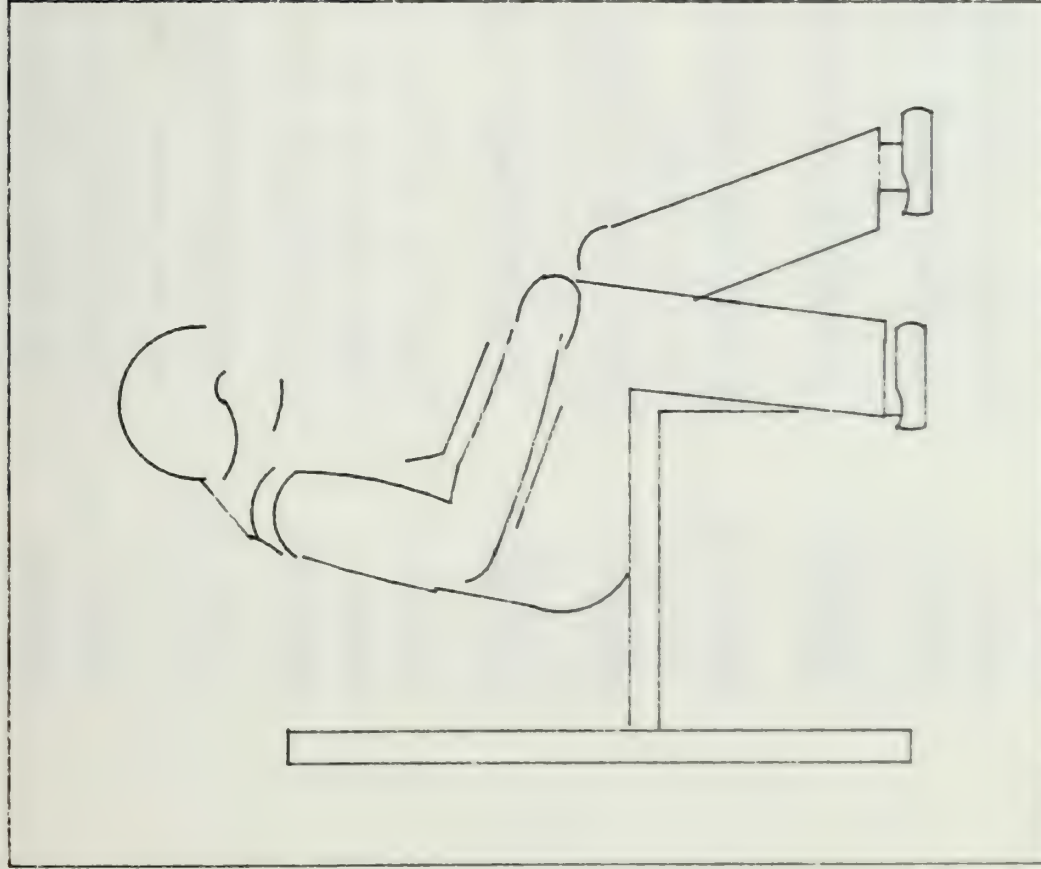
- I Western Region
- II Central Region
- III Northeast Region
- IV Southeast Region
- V Metropolitan Boston Region



ANALYSIS OF COMMITMENTS, 1987
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The typical newly committed youth is male, aged 15 years and 9 months, white, and was judged by the court to be delinquent of a burglary or larceny offense. His family income is over \$10,000, his parents are divorced or separated, and he has completed the eighth grade, putting him roughly two years below grade level.

INTRODUCTION

GRAPH I ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS 1982 - 1987

TABLE I COMMITMENT RATES, 1982 - 1987

SECTION I CHANGES IN CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS, 1986 - 1987

TABLE II CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS

TABLE III TYPE OF OFFENSE

TABLE IV HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS

SECTION II CHARACTERISTICS OF 1987 COMMITMENTS

TABLE V RACE, SEX AND AGE BY REGION

GRAPH 2 COMMITMENTS BY SEX

GRAPH 3 COMMITMENTS BY RACE

TABLE VI RACE AND SEX BY REGION

TABLE VII AGE AND INCOME BY REGION

TABLE VIII CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

GRAPH 4 CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

TABLE IX OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

TABLE X MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

TABLE XI LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

GRAPH 5 LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

SECTION III

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CLIENTS' DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

TABLE XII SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

GRAPH 6 PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

TABLE XIII AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

TABLE XIV OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX

TABLE XV AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

GRAPH 7 FAMILY INCOME BY RACE

SECTION IV

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, 1982 - 1987

GRAPH 8 NEW COMMITMENTS BY SEX

TABLE XVI NEW COMMITMENTS BY RACE

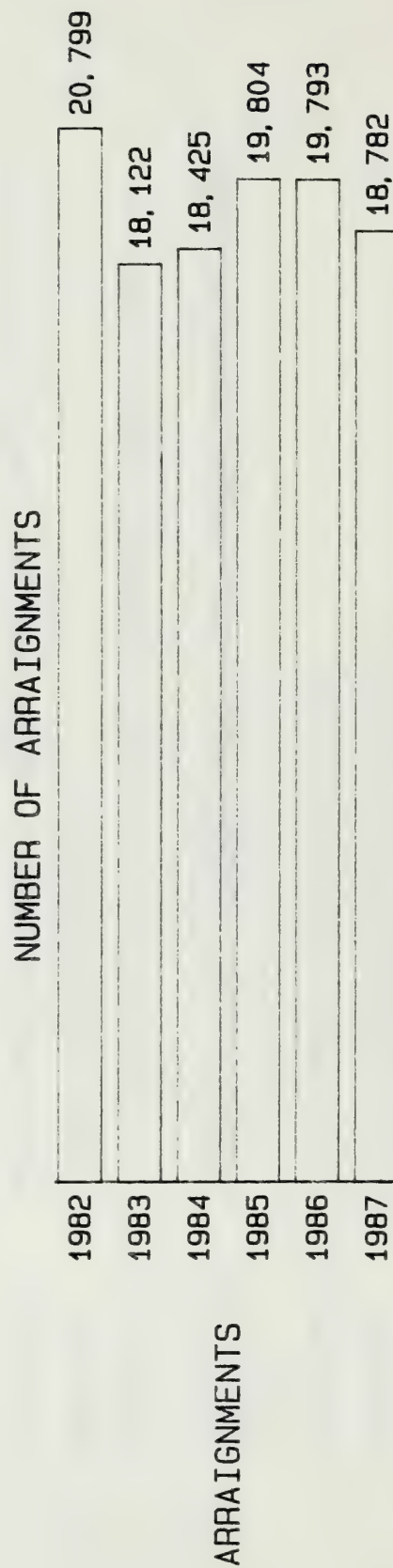
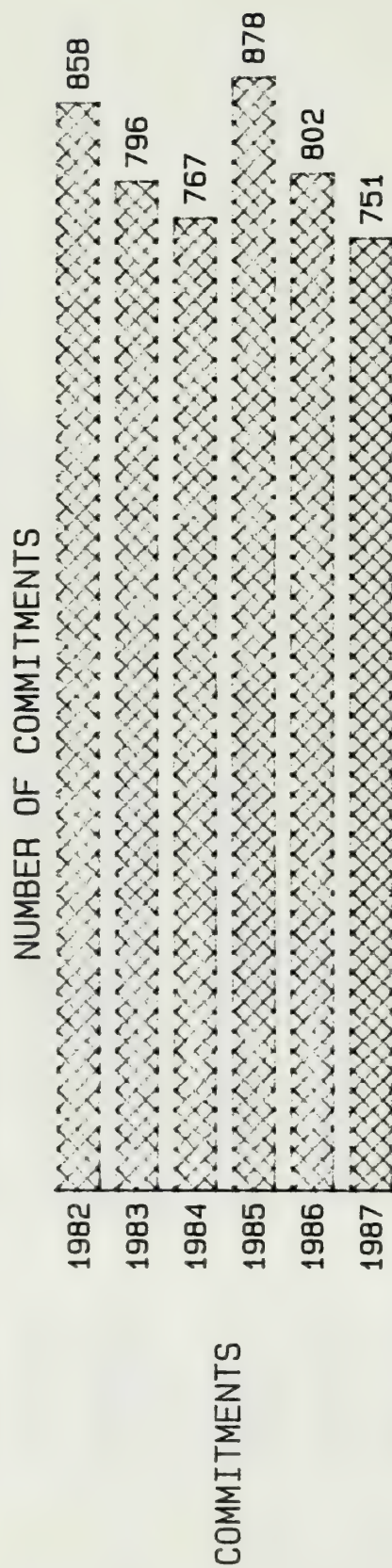
TABLE XVII NEW COMMITMENTS BY REGION

GRAPH 9 MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT

GRAPH 10 COMMITMENTS BY CHARGE TYPE

APPENDIX

GRAPH 1 ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS 1982 - 1987



NOTE: These figures do not replicate data in previous Analysis of Commitment reports as youths' commitments have subsequently been revised and revoked.

TABLE I
COMMITMENT RATES
1982 - 1987

	COMMITMENTS	ARRAIGNMENTS	COMMITMENT RATE
	N	N	%
1982	858	20,299	4.1%
1983	796	18,122	4.4%
1984	767	18,425	4.2%
1985	878	19,804	4.4%
1986	802	19,793	4.1%
1987	751	18,782	4.0%

INTRODUCTION

This report, the annual analysis of youths committed to the Department of Youth Services, is produced by the Bureau of Planning, Research and Systems. It is a compilation of new client data for the calendar year 1987. This data is collected at the time of intake and entered onto DYS' client tracking system. The Analysis of Commitment report serves to profile the newly committed youth in terms of a variety of demographic variables. Comparative data is utilized from earlier years in order to suggest present and future trends in commitments.

The 1987 Analysis of Commitment report is divided into four sections. Section I discusses recent trends in commitment, comparing 1986 and 1987 data. Section II looks at 1987 commitments, highlighting regional disparities and trends. Section III examines various relationships between client demographic characteristics for youths committed in 1987. Section IV presents broader trends in commitments, from 1982 through 1987. Finally, the Appendix explains "missing" information, or data which was uncollected by the regional offices during client intake and was therefore unavailable for analysis.

Seven hundred fifty-one youths were newly committed to the Department of Youth Services in 1987. This figures represents a decrease of 6.4% or 51 youths from 1986. After an unusually high number of commitments in 1985, rates of commitment have decreased steadily, and were 14.5% lower in 1987 than they were in 1985.

There was a corresponding decrease in the number of juvenile arraignments this year. From 1986 to 1987 the number of youths arraigned in Massachusetts courts dropped 5% (from 19,793 to 18,782), which represents a larger decrease than was seen from 1985 to 1986.

The proportion of youths arraigned who are subsequently committed has remained fairly constant over the years, ranging from 4.5% in 1985 to 4.1 in 1986 and 4.0 in 1987.

It should be noted that data in this report may not match previous issues of the Analysis of Commitment. The commitments for several youths each year are revised and revoked subsequent to distribution of this annual report. Data in this issue represent the most recent figures available.

SECTION I - HIGHLIGHTS

TABLE II - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS 1986 - 1987

How have characteristics of incoming clients changed from over the past year? Table II presents comparative demographic data for 1986 - 1987.

Age: One of the largest decreases in commitments from 1986 to 1987 occurred in the number of youths newly committed who were 14.6 - 15.5 years of age which decreased by 18.3%. The majority of new commitments (33.8%) continue to fall in the 15.6 - 16.5 age group.

Sex: While the number of newly committed males dropped 8.4% from 1986 to 1987, the number of females committed to the department during this time period increased 10.3%.

Race: 56.2% of the youths committed to the department in 1987 were White, 26.1% were Black, 16.9% were Hispanic and .8% of the 751 youths were of some other ethnic origin. While the number of White youths committed dropped 18.1% from 1986, the number of Black and Hispanic youths committed increased, 9.5% and 28.3% respectively.

Region: Metro once again had the highest number of commitments, totalling 208 youths or 27.7% of all youths committed in 1987. The Western and Southeast regions showed increases in commitments of 8.2% and 3.6% respectively, while the Northeast and Central regions showed the most significant changes, decreases of 19.7% and 24.4% respectively.

Charge Type: Property offenders continue to comprise the largest proportion of new commitments to the department in spite of an 11.7% decrease in the number of youths committed for these offenses since 1986. The number of person offenders committed to the department remained virtually unchanged from 1986 to 1987. The number of youths committed for motor vehicle or controlled substance abuses increased by roughly 11% this year.

Family Income: The number of new commitments in each family income group has dropped except for the \$10,189 - \$17,316 bracket.

With the exception of race, all of the above changes between 1986 and 1987 were statistically significant.

TABLE II
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS
1986-1987

	1986		1987		CHANGE 1986 - 1987	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS	802	100.0%	751	100.0%	-51	-6.4%
AGE:						
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	7	0.9%	12	1.6%	5	71.4%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	29	3.6%	20	2.7%	-9	-31.0%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	83	10.3%	92	12.3%	9	10.8%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	219	27.3%	179	23.8%	-40	-18.3%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	278	34.7%	254	33.8%	-24	-8.6%
16.6 +	186	23.2%	194	25.8%	8	4.3%
SEX:						
MALE	715	89.2%	655	87.2%	-60	-8.4%
FEMALE	87	10.8%	96	12.8%	9	10.3%
RACE:						
WHITE	515	64.2%	422	56.2%	-93	-18.1%
BLACK	179	22.3%	196	26.1%	17	9.5%
HISPANIC	99	12.3%	127	16.9%	28	28.3%
OTHER	9	1.1%	6	0.8%	-3	-33.3%
REGION:						
WESTERN	147	18.3%	159	21.2%	12	8.2%
CENTRAL	156	19.5%	118	15.7%	-38	-24.4%
NORTHEAST	152	19.0%	122	16.2%	-30	-19.7%
SOUTHEAST	139	17.3%	144	19.2%	5	3.6%
METRO	208	25.9%	208	27.7%	0	0.0%
CHARGE TYPE:						
PERSON	221	27.6%	220	29.3%	-1	-0.5%
PROPERTY	435	54.2%	384	51.1%	-51	-11.7%
MOTOR VEHICLE	52	6.5%	58	7.7%	6	11.5%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	35	4.4%	39	5.2%	4	11.4%
OTHER	59	7.4%	50	6.7%	-9	-15.3%
FAMILY INCOME:						
0 - \$5,328	107	18.1%	90	18.0%	-17	-15.9%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	84	14.2%	65	13.0%	-19	-22.6%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	106	17.9%	83	16.6%	-23	-21.7%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	121	20.5%	132	26.3%	11	9.1%
\$17,317 +	173	29.3%	131	26.1%	-42	-24.3%

TABLE III - TYPE OF OFFENSE

As seen in previous years, burglary and possession of burglarious tools were the most common offenses for which a youth was committed to the department, constituting 21% of the total number of youths committed in 1987. Youths who had committed larceny accounted for another 18.1% of the total number of 1987 commitments. There was a decrease of 34.6% in the number of youths committed for unarmed robbery charges in 1987.

TABLE III
TYPE OF OFFENSE
1986-1987

OFFENSE	1986		1987		CHANGE 1986 - 1987		CHANGE 1983 - 1987	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
MURDER	2	0.2%	3	0.4%	1	50.0%	-1	-25.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	0	0.0%	4	0.5%	4	-----	1	33.3%
ARMED ASSAULT	76	9.5%	85	11.3%	9	11.8%	26	44.1%
UNARMED ASSAULT	60	7.5%	57	7.6%	-3	-5.0%	-6	-9.5%
ARMED ROBBERY	13	1.6%	14	1.9%	1	7.7%	-3	-17.6%
UNARMED ROBBERY	26	3.2%	17	2.3%	-9	-34.6%	-11	-39.3%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	39	4.9%	33	4.4%	-6	-15.4%	9	37.5%
KIDNAPPING	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
THREATS, ETC.	4	0.5%	6	0.8%	2	50.0%	1	20.0%
OTHER PERSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	-----	-1	-100.0%
ARSON	19	2.4%	13	1.7%	-6	-31.6%	-1	-7.1%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	165	20.6%	158	21.0%	-7	-4.2%	-67	-29.8%
LARCENY	163	20.3%	136	18.1%	-27	-16.6%	8	6.3%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	42	5.2%	39	5.2%	-3	-7.1%	10	34.5%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	44	5.5%	36	4.8%	-8	-18.2%	-10	-21.7%
SEX OFFENSES	5	0.6%	6	0.8%	1	20.0%	-2	-25.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	52	6.5%	58	7.7%	6	11.5%	11	23.4%
PUBLIC ORDER	53	6.6%	40	5.3%	-13	-24.5%	-8	-16.7%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	35	4.4%	39	5.2%	4	11.4%	16	69.6%
FRAUD	2	0.2%	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	2	-----
UNSPECIFIED DELINQUENCY	1	0.1%	4	0.5%	3	300.0%	-16	-80.0%

*POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS

TABLE IV - HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS

Table IV lists the ten courts with the highest numbers of commitments and the six highest contributing zip code areas of 1987. The Brockton court experienced the greatest change from 11 to 22 youths, and increase of 100%. Springfield Juvenile Court and Roxbury Court experienced substantial increases of 36.4% and 34.8% respectively. Pittsfield experienced the largest decrease in commitments, 45.5%.

The top contributing zip code areas continue to fluctuate from year to year. Only Dorchester-Codman Square and Holyoke are again in the top six contributing zip code areas.

TABLE IV
HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1986 - 1987

COURT AND ZIP CODE AREAS	1986		1987		1986 - 1987 CHANGE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
COURT						
BOSTON JUVENILE	74	8.4%	67	9.4%	-7	-9.5%
SPRINGFIELD JUVENILE	44	5.0%	60	5.6%	16	36.4%
DORCHESTER	41	4.7%	53	5.2%	12	29.3%
WORCESTER JUVENILE	36	4.1%	34	4.6%	-2	-5.6%
ROXBURY	23	2.6%	31	2.9%	8	34.8%
LAWRENCE	37	4.2%	27	4.7%	-10	-27.0%
CAMBRIDGE	25	2.8%	26	3.2%	1	4.0%
NEW BEDFORD	19	2.2%	25	3.1%	6	31.6%
BROCKTON	11	1.3%	22	2.9%	11	100.0%
LOWELL	33	3.8%	21	4.2%	-12	-36.4%
PITTSFIELD	22	2.5%	12	2.8%	-10	-45.5%
ZIP CODE						
SPRINGFIELD (01109)	7	2.1%	20	4.6%	13	185.7%
DORCHESTER - CODMAN SQUARE (02124)	29	5.1%	19	3.9%	-10	-34.5%
BROCKTON (02401)	11	1.7%	18	2.7%	7	63.6%
HOLYOKE (01040)	24	1.7%	17	2.2%	-7	-29.2%
CAMBRIDGE (02139)	8	1.3%	14	1.9%	6	75.0%
NEW BEDFORD (02740)	10	1.2%	13	1.9%	3	30.0%

SECTION II

TABLE V SEX, RACE AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

This table should be read as follows:

WESTERN REGION			
SEX:	N	ROW %	COL %
MALE	129	19.7%	81.1%

In the Western region there were 129 newly committed males. These males represent 19.7% of all the males committed in 1987. These 129 males also represent 81.1% of all the commitments in the Western region.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Metro region committed proportionately more males, than any other region. Over thirty percent of the males newly committed to the department were committed to the Metro region. The Central region had the highest proportion (23.7%) of commitments who were female. The association between region and sex was not statistically significant.

White youths constituted the greatest proportion of new commitments in all but Metro region, a trend that has been established over the last several years. Of all 1987 commitments, Metro region committed the most Black youths, 67.3% and Western region committed the most Hispanic youths, 33.9%. The variations in racial distribution by region was statistically significant.

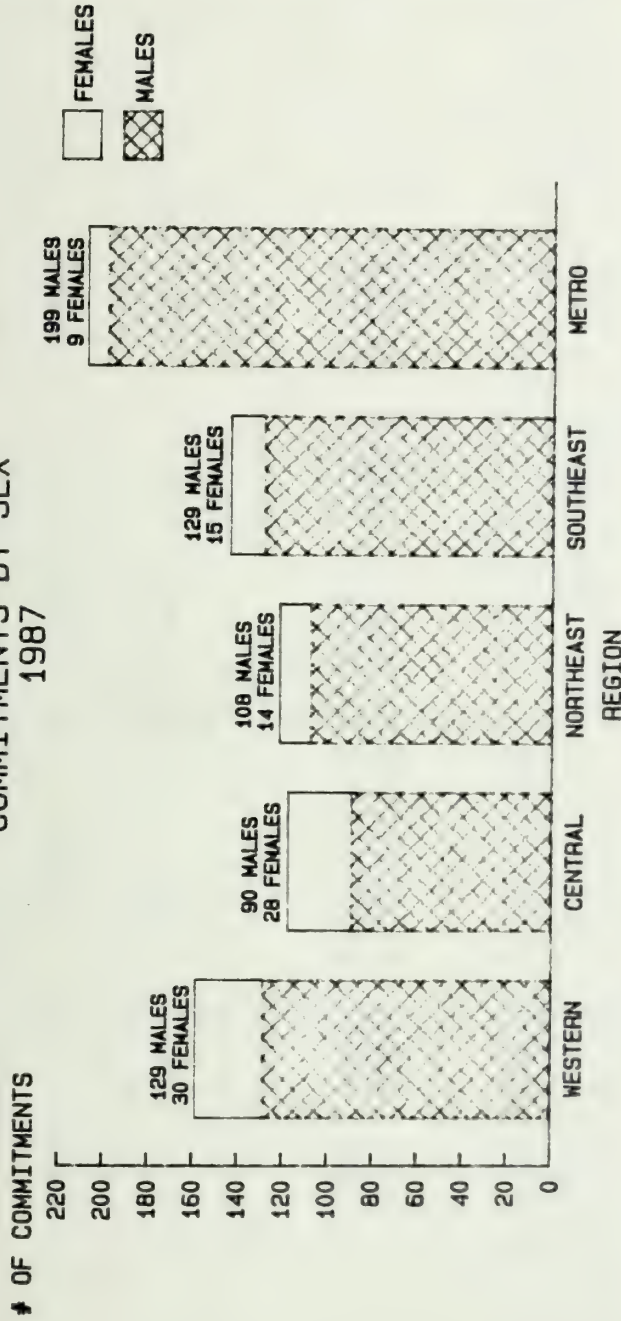
In each of the regions the greatest percentage of youths committed were between 15.6 and 16.5 years old. Comparing across regions, 27.8% of youths over 16.6 years old were committed in the Metro region. Of the youths between the ages of 9 and 12.5, 66.7% or eight of twelve youths were committed in the Western region. The association between region and age was statistically significant.

TABLE V
SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION
1987

	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
SEX:															
MALE	129	19.7%	81.1%	90	13.7%	76.3%	108	16.5%	88.5%	129	19.7%	89.6%	199	30.4%	95.7%
FEMALE	30	31.3%	18.9%	28	29.2%	23.7%	14	14.6%	11.5%	15	15.6%	10.4%	9	9.4%	4.3%
RACE:															
WHITE	87	20.6%	54.7%	83	19.7%	70.3%	93	22.0%	76.2%	115	27.3%	79.9%	44	10.4%	21.2%
BLACK	27	13.8%	17.0%	10	5.1%	8.5%	7	3.6%	5.7%	20	10.2%	13.9%	132	67.3%	63.5%
HISPANIC	43	33.9%	27.0%	25	19.7%	21.2%	20	15.7%	16.4%	7	5.5%	4.9%	32	25.2%	15.4%
OTHER	2	33.3%	1.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	33.3%	1.6%	2	33.3%	1.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
AGE AT COMMITMENT:															
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	8	66.7%	5.0%	2	16.7%	1.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	8.3%	0.7%	1	8.3%	0.5%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	5	25.0%	3.1%	2	10.0%	1.7%	5	25.0%	4.1%	3	15.0%	2.1%	5	25.0%	2.4%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	25	27.2%	15.7%	14	15.2%	11.9%	18	19.6%	14.8%	12	13.0%	8.3%	23	25.0%	11.1%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	38	21.2%	23.9%	25	14.0%	21.2%	25	14.0%	20.5%	37	20.7%	25.7%	54	30.2%	26.0%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	44	17.3%	27.7%	46	18.1%	39.0%	41	16.1%	33.6%	52	20.5%	36.1%	71	28.0%	34.1%
16.6 + OVER	39	20.1%	24.5%	29	14.9%	24.6%	33	17.0%	27.0%	39	20.1%	27.1%	54	27.8%	26.0%

GRAPH 2

COMMITMENTS BY SEX 1987



GRAPH 3

COMMITMENTS BY RACE 1987

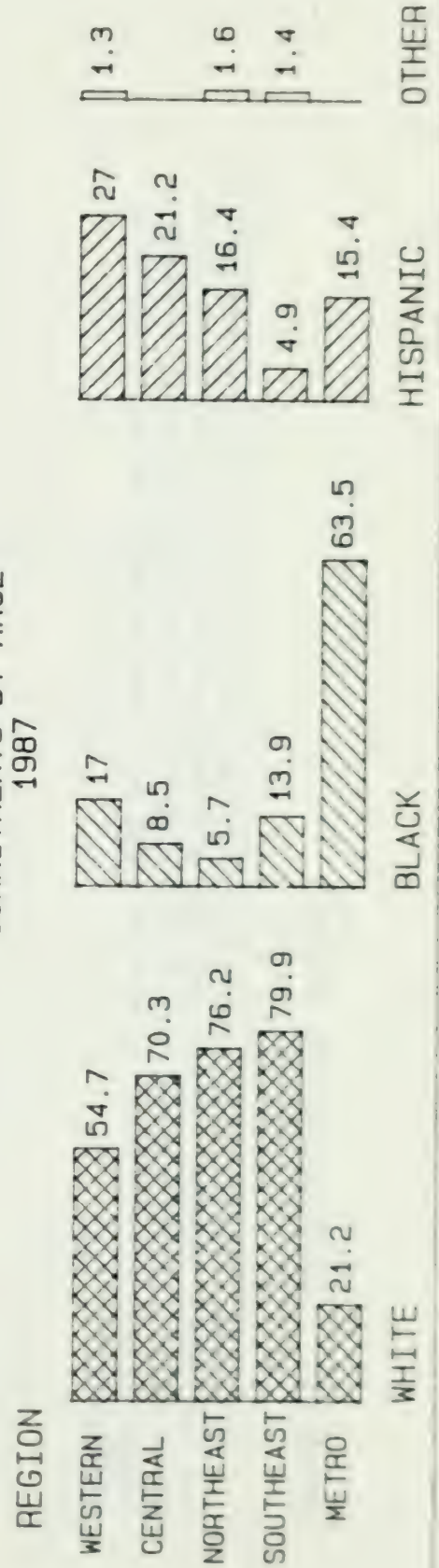


TABLE VI RACE AND SEX BY REGION

In 1987, the highest proportion of White males, 28.9%, were committed to the Southeast region. Metro had the greatest proportion of newly committed Black males, 69.4% and Western had the highest proportion of newly committed Hispanic males, 34.5%. Associations between race and sex are statistically significant.

TABLE VI
RACE AND SEX BY REGION
1987

	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
WHITE:															
MALE	65	18.2%	40.9%	62	17.4%	52.5%	83	23.2%	68.0%	103	28.9%	71.5%	44	12.3%	21.2%
FEMALE	22	33.8%	13.8%	21	32.3%	17.8%	10	15.4%	8.2%	12	18.5%	8.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
BLACK:															
MALE	24	13.3%	15.1%	8	4.4%	6.8%	6	3.3%	4.9%	17	9.4%	11.8%	125	69.4%	60.1%
FEMALE	3	18.8%	1.9%	2	12.5%	1.7%	1	6.3%	0.8%	3	18.8%	2.1%	7	43.8%	3.4%
HISPANIC:															
MALE	39	34.5%	24.5%	20	17.7%	16.9%	17	15.0%	13.9%	7	6.2%	4.9%	30	26.5%	14.4%
FEMALE	4	28.6%	2.5%	5	35.7%	4.2%	3	21.4%	2.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	14.3%	1.0%
OTHER:															
MALE	1	20.0%	0.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	40.0%	1.6%	2	40.0%	1.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
FEMALE	1	100.0%	0.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%

TABLE VII AGE AND INCOME BY REGION

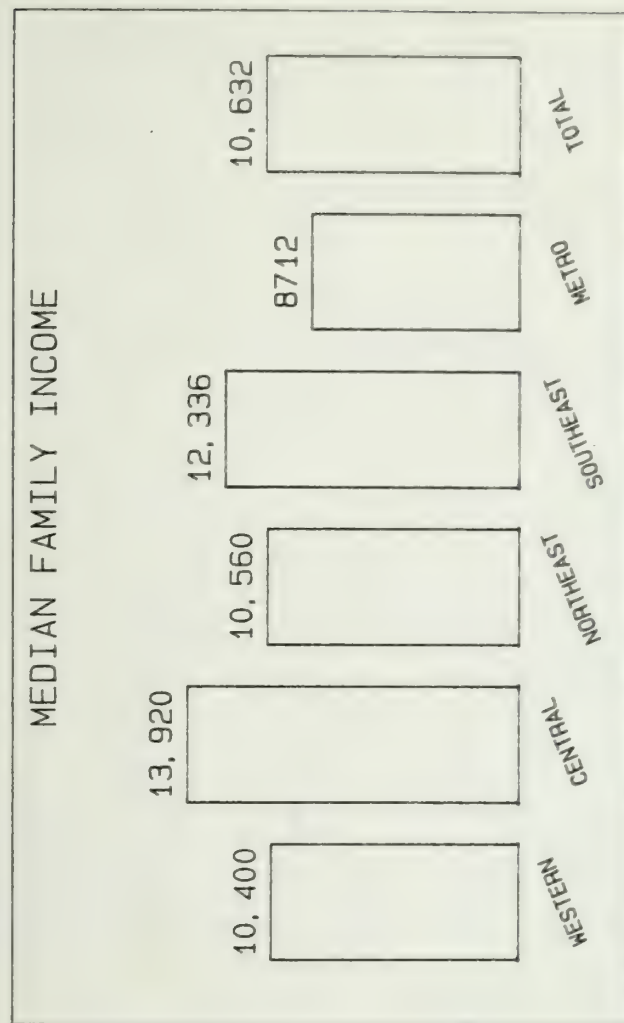
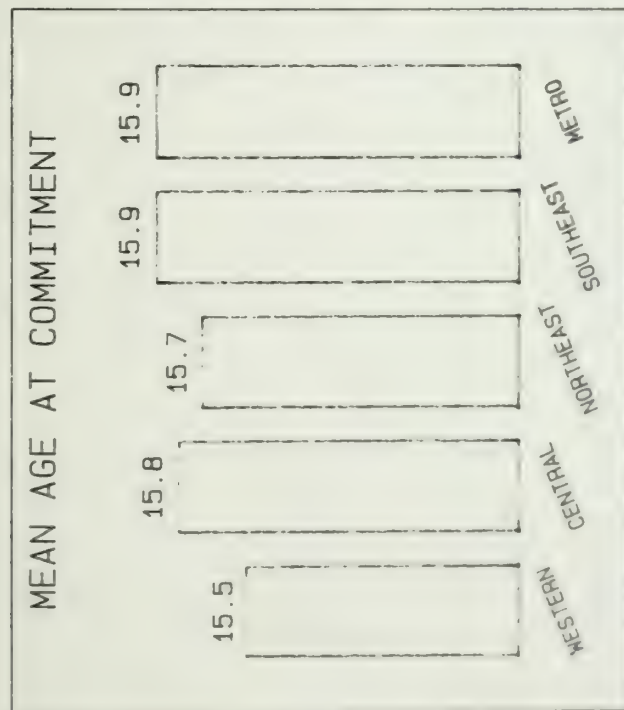
What are the regional variations in average client age and family income?

Table VII examines, by region, comparisons of family income and client age. "Average" age and income are represented by the mean and median. Highest and lowest cases are included as well for each variable.

In calculating the average age, the mean is a more commonly reported statistic than the median. The Western region again reported the lowest average age again this year, at 15.5 (15 years, 6 months). The Southeast and Metro regions reported the highest average age of 15.9 (15 years, 11 months). The variations in age are statistically significant.

In examining the average family income, the median is the most commonly utilized statistic. Family incomes in the Southeast Region were, on average, 108% higher than the statewide median of \$10,632. Metro was the only region whose average family income was lower (2.2%) than the statewide median. The relationship between region and family income is statistically significant, even after accounting for regional differences in racial distributions.

TABLE VII: AGE AND INCOME BY REGION
1987



	WESTERN	CENTRAL	N. EAST	S. EAST	METRO	TOTAL
MEAN AGE	15.5	15.8	15.7	15.9	15.9	15.7
MEDIAN AGE	15.6	16.0	15.9	16.7	15.9	15.9
LOWEST	11.6	12.5	12.8	12.0	12.4	11.6
HIGHEST	18.2	17.4	17.5	17.9	20.1	20.1

	WESTERN	CENTRAL	N. EAST	S. EAST	METRO	TOTAL
MEAN INCOME	\$13,144	\$17,439	\$13,233	\$15,422	\$10,914	\$13,719
MEDIAN INCOME	\$10,400	\$13,920	\$18,980	\$22,152	\$12,936	\$10,632
LOWEST	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HIGHEST	\$88,080	\$90,000	\$58,000	\$53,000	\$46,916	\$90,000

TABLE VIII CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

How did commitment offenses vary by region?

In the Western region there were 48 newly committed person offenders. These offenders represented 21.8% of all person offenders committed in 1987. These 48 person offenders also represented 30.2% of all the commitments in the Western region.

Regional offense profiles may be compared by reading the column percentages across the table. While the Metro region maintained a high proportion of new commitments who were person offenders relative to the other regions, (33.7%) that figure has dropped from 1986 by 16%. Of all youths committed to the Department for controlled substance offenses the highest proportion, 61.5% were committed to the Metro region. In all regions the most common reason for a new commitment was a property offense. The association between region and charge type is statistically significant.

TABLE VIII
CHARGE TYPE BY REGION

1987

CHARGE TYPE	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGAINST PERSON	48	21.8%	30.2%	31	14.1%	26.3%	31	14.1%	25.4%	40	18.2%	27.8%	70	31.8%	33.7%
AGAINST PROPERTY	86	22.4%	54.1%	56	14.6%	47.5%	63	16.4%	51.6%	84	21.9%	58.3%	95	24.7%	45.7%
MOTOR VEHICLE	12	20.7%	7.5%	16	27.6%	13.6%	14	24.1%	11.5%	9	15.5%	6.3%	7	12.1%	3.4%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	4	10.3%	2.5%	4	10.3%	3.4%	6	15.4%	4.9%	1	2.6%	0.7%	24	61.5%	11.5%
OTHER	9	18.0%	5.7%	11	22.0%	9.3%	8	16.0%	6.6%	10	20.0%	6.9%	12	24.0%	5.8%

GRAPH 4
CHARGE TYPE BY REGION
1987

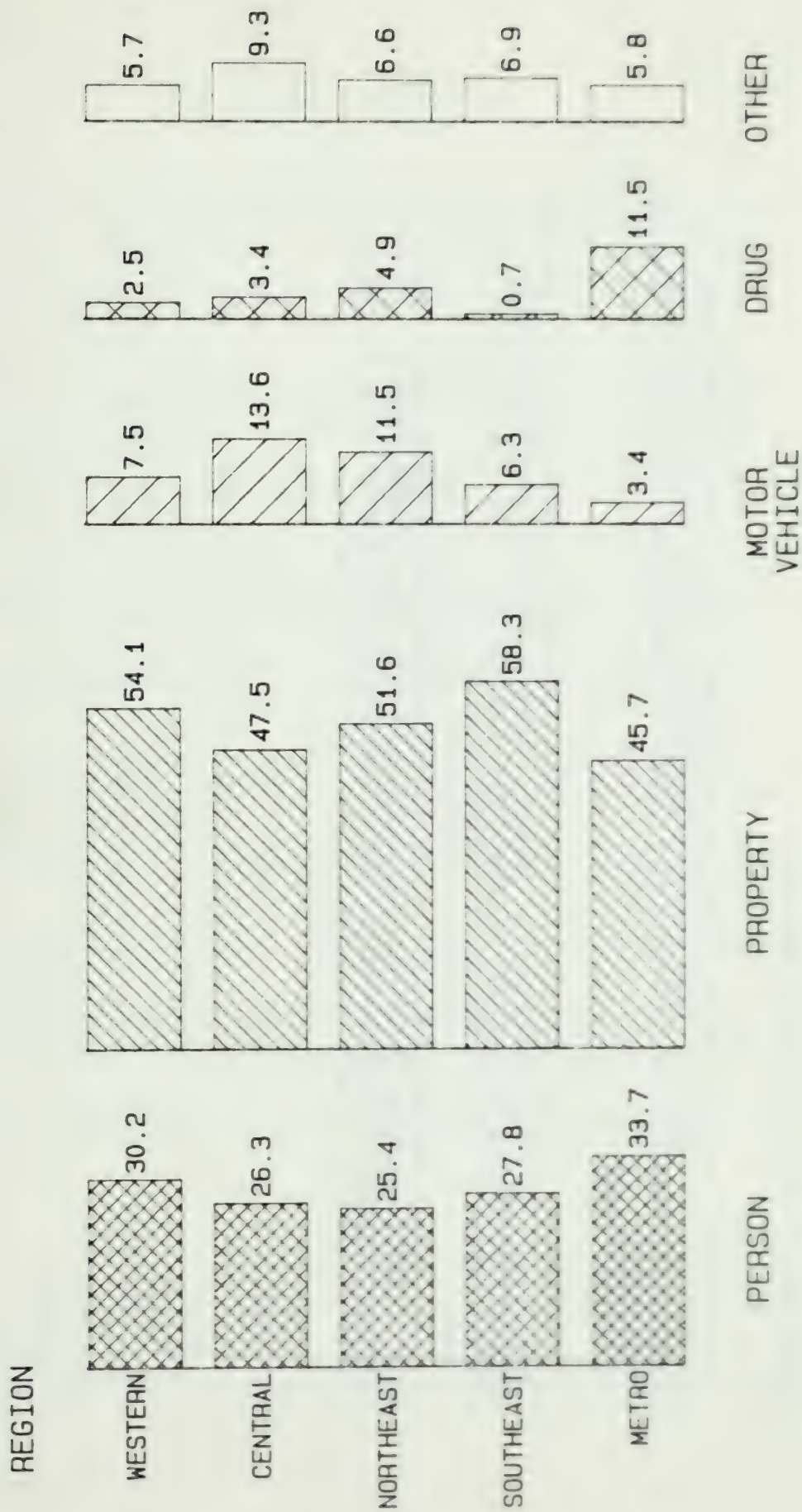


TABLE IX OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

Burglary and larceny continue to be the two most frequent commitment charges in all regions. This year in the Central region there were as many youths committed for motor vehicle offenses as there were for larceny offenses. The proportion of youths committed for armed assault charges in the Metro region has dropped 36%.

Comparing row percentages for offenses against the person for regions with five or more youths committed for these offenses, the Western region had a disproportionately high share of armed and unarmed assaults; Metro of armed and unarmed robbery; and Northeast for sexual assault.

Comparing row percentages for property offenses for regions with five or more youths committed for these offenses, the Southeast region had a disproportionately high number of burglary offenses; and Metro for larceny, receiving stolen property and controlled substance offenses.

TABLE X MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

Generally, there was variability in each region in the number of youths committed each month. The association between month of commitment and region is statistically significant.

TABLE X
MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION
1987

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
TOTAL	159	21.2% 100.0%	118	15.7% 100.0%	122	16.2% 100.0%	144	19.2% 100.0%	208	27.7% 100.0%
JANUARY	17	26.6% 10.7%	5	7.8% 4.2%	17	26.6% 13.9%	11	17.2% 7.6%	14	21.9% 6.7%
FEBRUARY	13	18.8% 8.2%	9	13.0% 7.6%	10	14.5% 8.2%	16	23.2% 11.1%	21	30.4% 10.1%
MARCH	21	28.8% 13.2%	8	11.0% 6.8%	9	12.3% 7.4%	18	24.7% 12.5%	17	23.3% 8.2%
FIRST QUARTER TOTAL	51	24.8% 32.1%	22	10.7% 18.6%	36	17.5% 29.5%	45	21.8% 31.3%	52	25.2% 25.0%
APRIL	11	19.6% 6.9%	8	14.3% 6.8%	13	23.2% 10.7%	7	12.5% 4.9%	17	30.4% 8.2%
MAY	12	19.4% 7.5%	12	19.4% 10.2%	11	17.7% 9.0%	10	16.1% 6.9%	17	27.4% 8.2%
JUNE	12	14.6% 7.5%	10	12.2% 8.5%	16	19.5% 13.1%	16	19.5% 11.1%	28	34.1% 13.5%
SECOND QUARTER TOTAL	35	17.5% 22.0%	30	15.0% 25.4%	40	20.0% 32.8%	33	16.5% 22.9%	62	31.0% 29.8%
JULY	14	23.3% 7.5%	12	20.0% 8.1%	9	15.0% 5.7%	13	21.7% 7.6%	12	20.0% 5.1%
AUGUST	11	23.4% 6.9%	11	23.4% 9.3%	5	10.6% 4.1%	8	17.0% 5.6%	12	25.5% 5.8%
SEPTEMBER	12	23.5% 6.1%	10	19.6% 6.5%	4	7.8% 2.5%	14	27.5% 7.7%	11	21.6% 4.7%
THIRD QUARTER TOTAL	37	23.4% 23.3%	33	20.9% 28.0%	18	11.4% 14.8%	35	22.2% 24.3%	35	22.2% 16.8%
OCTOBER	9	15.5% 5.7%	11	19.0% 9.3%	9	15.5% 7.4%	11	19.0% 7.6%	18	31.0% 8.7%
NOVEMBER	10	15.4% 6.3%	11	16.9% 9.3%	11	16.9% 9.0%	11	16.9% 7.6%	22	33.8% 10.6%
DECEMBER	17	26.6% 10.7%	11	17.2% 9.3%	8	12.5% 6.6%	9	14.1% 6.3%	19	29.7% 9.1%
FOURTH QUARTER TOTAL	36	19.3% 22.6%	33	17.6% 28.0%	28	15.0% 23.0%	31	16.6% 21.5%	59	31.6% 28.4%

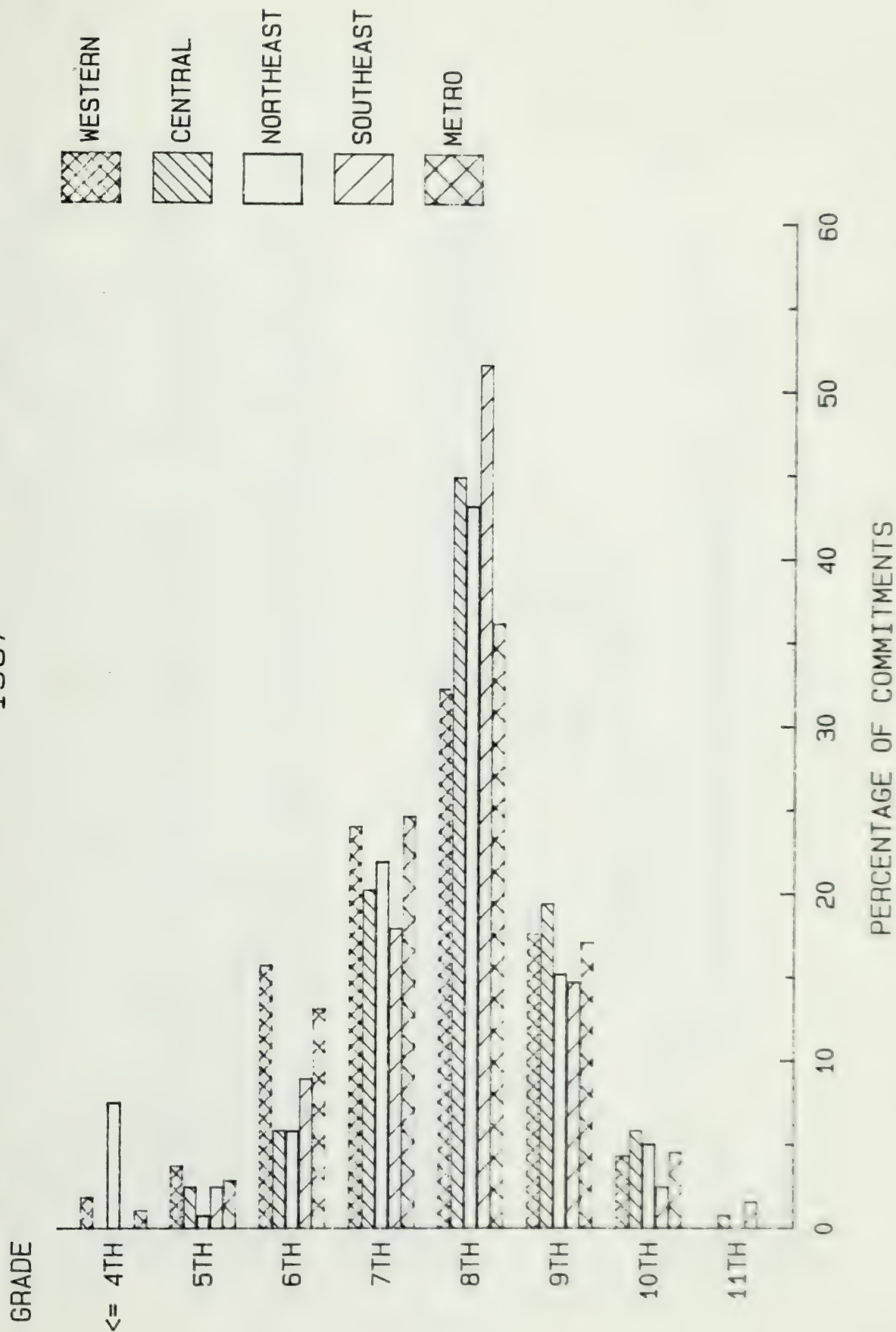
TABLE XI LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

When the total column percentages are added through the 8th grade, we find that approximately 78% of the committed youths statewide have completed the 8th grade or less. The eighth grade was the last grade completed by the largest proportion of youths in all regions. Only 34 youths, or 5% of the youths committed for whom data was available completed a grade higher than ninth. The relationship between region and grade level in 1987 is statistically significant.

TABLE XI
LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION
1987

LAST GRADE COMPLETED	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
LESS THAN 4TH	3	21.4%	1.9%	0	0.0%	0.0%	9	64.3%	7.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	14.3%	1.1%
5TH	6	33.3%	3.8%	3	16.7%	2.5%	1	5.6%	0.8%	3	16.7%	2.5%	5	27.8%	2.9%
6TH	25	34.2%	15.8%	7	9.6%	5.9%	7	9.6%	5.9%	11	15.1%	9.0%	23	31.5%	13.2%
7TH	38	24.8%	24.1%	24	15.7%	20.3%	26	17.0%	22.0%	22	14.4%	18.0%	43	28.1%	24.7%
8TH	51	18.1%	32.3%	53	18.9%	44.9%	51	18.1%	43.2%	63	22.4%	51.6%	63	22.4%	36.2%
9TH	28	23.9%	17.7%	23	19.7%	19.5%	18	15.4%	15.3%	18	15.4%	14.8%	30	25.6%	17.2%
10TH	7	22.6%	4.4%	7	22.6%	5.9%	6	19.4%	5.1%	3	9.7%	2.5%	8	25.8%	4.6%
11TH	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	33.3%	0.8%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	66.7%	1.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%

GRAPH 5 LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION 1987



SECTION III

TABLE XII SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

This table should be read as follows:

I (Married and Living Together)

SEX:	N	ROW%	COL%
MALE	105	19.2%	88.2%

In 1987, 105 boys were committed whose natural parents were married and living together at the time of intake. These 105 youths with married parents represented 19.2% of all boys. These boys also represented 88.2% of all commitments with married parents.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Approximately half of the 1987 commitments (47.9%) came from homes where parents are divorced or separated, a trend that has been established over the past four years. Almost one-fifth of the new commitments came from homes where the parents are married and living together.

Comparing males and females, we find that females were slightly more likely to come from divorced or separated family situations. Conversely, males were slightly more likely to come from intact households. The association between sex and marital status is statistically significant.

The offense distribution for each marital status can be determined by examining column percentages for categories of charge type. As in the past four years youths whose parents never married (Category III) were more likely than other youths to be committed for an offense against the person. The relationship between marital status and offense type is statistically significant.

Metro region again had the lowest proportion of new commitments with intact families (14.5%). Southeast and Central regions had the highest proportion of new commitments with intact families. The variations across regions were found to be statistically significant.

TABLE XII
SEX, CHARGE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS
1987

	I		II		III		IV		V	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
TOTAL	119	18.8% -	304	47.9% -	144	22.7% -	40	6.3% -	27	4.3% -
SEX										
MALE	105	19.2% 88.2%	260	47.5% 85.5%	125	22.8% 86.8%	36	6.6% 90.0%	22	4.0% 81.5%
FEMALE	14	16.3% 11.8%	44	51.2% 14.5%	19	22.1% 13.2%	4	4.7% 10.0%	5	5.8% 18.5%
CHARGE TYPE										
PERSON	38	21.0% 31.9%	71	39.2% 23.4%	52	28.7% 36.1%	13	7.2% 32.5%	7	3.9% 25.9%
PROPERTY	58	17.3% 48.7%	177	52.8% 58.2%	61	18.2% 42.4%	22	6.6% 55.0%	17	5.1% 63.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	12	23.5% 10.1%	25	49.0% 8.2%	9	17.7% 6.3%	3	5.9% 7.5%	2	3.9% 7.4%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	4	12.5% 3.4%	14	43.8% 4.6%	13	40.6% 9.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	3.1% 3.7%
OTHER	7	20.0% 5.9%	17	48.6% 5.6%	9	25.7% 6.3%	2	5.7% 5.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%
REGION										
WESTERN	23	15.1% 19.3%	76	50.0% 25.0%	36	23.7% 25.0%	11	7.2% 27.5%	6	4.0% 22.2%
CENTRAL	25	24.0% 21.0%	55	52.9% 18.1%	20	19.2% 13.9%	1	1.0% 2.5%	3	2.9% 11.1%
NORTHEAST	20	17.1% 16.8%	61	52.1% 20.1%	24	20.5% 16.7%	9	7.7% 22.5%	3	2.6% 11.1%
SOUTHEAST	33	24.1% 27.7%	60	43.8% 19.7%	20	14.6% 13.9%	16	11.7% 40.0%	8	5.8% 29.6%
METRO	18	14.5% 15.1%	52	41.9% 17.1%	44	35.5% 30.6%	3	2.4% 7.5%	7	5.7% 25.9%

MARITAL STATUS CODES:
I = MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER
II = DIVORCED OR SEPARATED
III = NEVER MARRIED
IV = EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED
V = OTHER

GRAPH 6
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS
1987

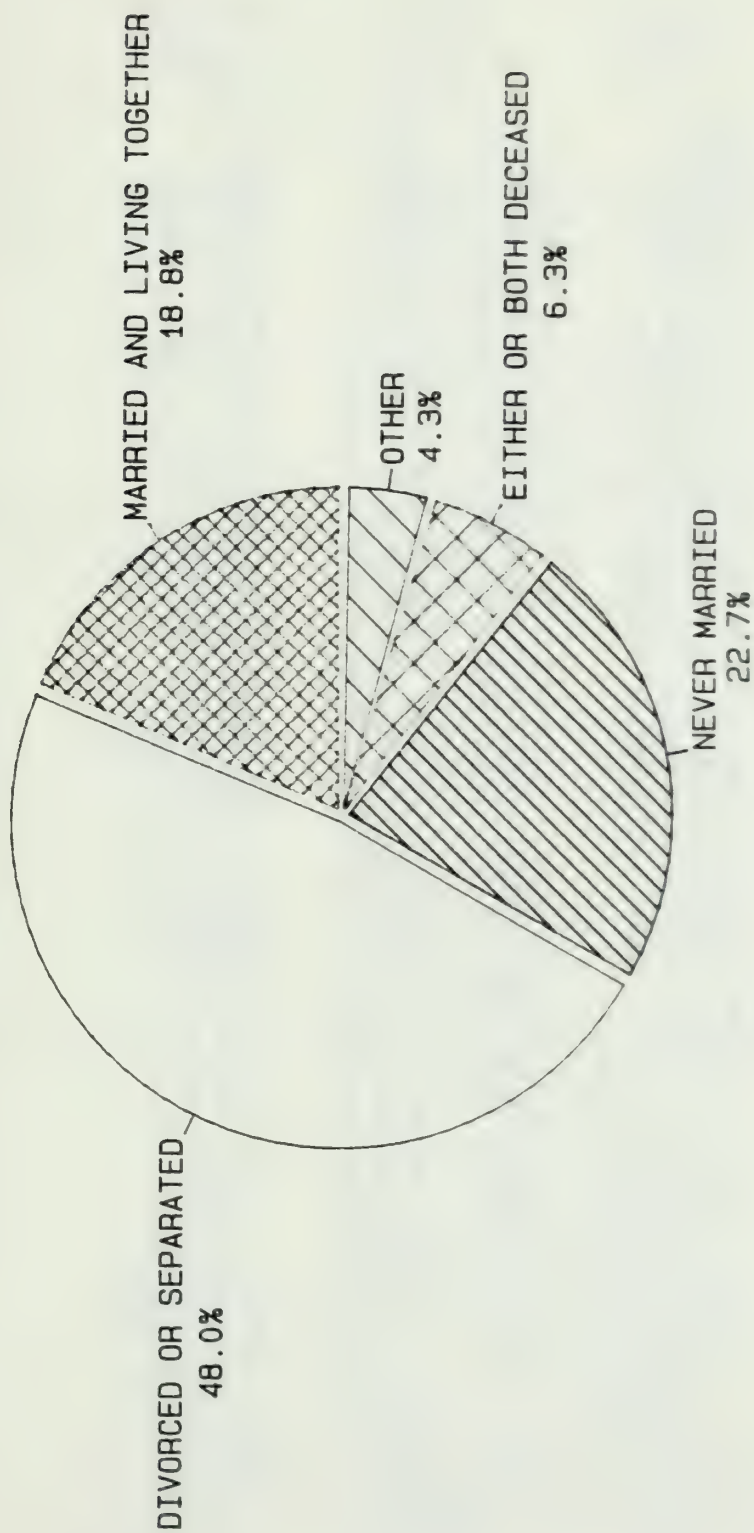


TABLE XIII AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

HIGHLIGHTS

AGE: A comparison of column percentages across the table shows the effect of sex on age at commitment. Again this year, there were proportionately more girls at the lower end of the age range, and more boys older than 15.6 at the time of commitment. The relationship between age and sex is statistically significant.

RACE: Comparing column percentages for males and females we can compare racial distributions for both sexes. Male clients were more likely to be Black or Hispanic (27.5% and 17.3%) than female clients (16.7% and 14.6%).

PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS: An examination of column figures shows that 19.2% of the male clients and 16.3% of the female clients came from intact homes. The association between sex and marital status is statistically significant.

FAMILY INCOME: The distribution for 1987 places a greater proportion of girls in the lowest income category (19.4% compared with 17.6% for boys), a trend which has been established over the last three years. The association between sex and family income is statistically significant.

TABLE XIII
AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX
1987

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGE:						
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	10	83.3%	1.5%	2	16.7%	2.1%
13.6 - 13.5 YEARS	19	95.0%	2.9%	17	15.0%	1.7%
14.6 - 14.5 YEARS	75	81.5%	11.5%	38	21.2%	17.6%
15.6 - 15.5 YEARS	141	78.8%	21.5%	28	11.0%	39.2%
16.6 - 16.5 YEARS	226	89.0%	34.5%	10	5.2%	10.4%
17.6 - 17.5 YEARS	184	94.8%	28.1%			
RACE:						
WHITE	357	84.6%	54.5%	65	15.4%	67.7%
BLACK	180	91.8%	27.5%	16	8.2%	16.7%
HISPANIC	113	89.0%	17.3%	14	11.0%	14.6%
OTHER	5	83.3%	0.8%	1	16.7%	1.0%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:						
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	105	88.2%	19.2%	14	11.8%	16.3%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	260	85.5%	47.5%	44	13.5%	51.2%
NEVER MARRIED	125	86.8%	22.8%	19	10.0%	22.1%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	36	90.0%	6.6%	4	18.5%	4.5%
OTHER	22	81.5%	4.0%	5		
FAMILY INCOME:						
\$0 - \$5,328	76	84.4%	17.6%	14	15.6%	19.4%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	58	89.2%	13.4%	7	10.8%	9.7%
\$7,131 - \$16,188	68	81.9%	15.7%	15	18.1%	20.8%
\$16,189 - \$17,316	116	87.9%	26.9%	16	12.1%	23.3%
\$17,317 +	114	85.1%	26.4%	20	14.9%	27.8%

TABLE XIV

An examination of the column percentages shows that males were most often committed for burglary, 22.6%, and larceny, 18.5%. Of the females committed, 15.6% were committed for larceny offenses, 13.5% were committed for armed assault, and 13.5% were committed for unarmed assault offenses.

Commitments for property offenses predominated for both males and females in 1987. Commitments for property offenses for males account for 52.8% of the total number of commitments. The percentage of females committed for person and for property offenses are proportionately closer, 31% and 39.6% respectively. Proportionately more girls than boys are committed for motor vehicle and other charges. The association between sex and charge type was not statistically significant, however.

TABLE XIV
OFFENSE AND CHARGE TYPE BY SEX
1987

OFFENSE TYPE	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
MURDER	2	66.7%	0.3%	1	33.3%	1.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	4	100.0%	0.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
ARMED ASSAULT	72	84.7%	11.0%	13	15.3%	13.5%
UNARMED ASSAULT	44	77.2%	6.7%	13	22.8%	13.5%
ARMED ROBBERY	14	100.0%	2.1%	0	0.0%	0.0%
UNARMED ROBBERY	16	94.1%	2.4%	1	5.9%	1.0%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	33	100.0%	5.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
KIDNAPPING	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	100.0%	1.0%
THREATS, ETC.	5	83.3%	0.8%	1	16.7%	1.0%
ARSON	12	92.3%	1.8%	1	7.7%	0.4%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	48	93.7%	22.6%	10	6.3%	15.6%
LARCENY	121	89.0%	18.5%	15	11.0%	15.6%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	33	84.6%	5.0%	5	15.4%	6.3%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	31	86.1%	4.7%	5	13.9%	6.3%
SEX OFFENSES	4	66.7%	0.6%	2	33.3%	2.1%
MOTOR VEHICLE	48	82.8%	7.3%	10	17.2%	10.4%
PUBLIC ORDER	31	77.5%	4.7%	9	22.5%	9.4%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	33	84.6%	5.0%	6	15.4%	6.3%
FRAUD	1	50.0%	0.2%	1	50.0%	1.0%
UNSPECIFIED DELINQUENCY	3	75.0%	0.5%	1	25.0%	1.0%
CHARGE TYPE						
PERSON	190	86.4%	29.0%	30	13.6%	31.6%
PROPERTY	346	90.1%	52.8%	38	9.9%	39.9%
MOTOR VEHICLE	48	82.8%	7.3%	10	17.2%	10.4%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	33	84.6%	5.0%	6	15.4%	6.3%
OTHER	38	76.0%	5.8%	12	24.0%	12.5%

TABLE XV

Age: For all races, the greatest percentage of new commitments were youths between the ages of 15.6 years and 16.5 years. For all age groups with the exception of youths aged 9 to 12.5 years, White youths made up at least 50% of the total number of youths committed. The relationship between age and race is statistically significant.

Family Income: Of all newly committed youths from families earning over \$17,317, 69% were White youths. The association between family income and race is statistically significant.

Parents' Marital Status: Of the White youths committed in 1987, 52% were from homes where the parents were divorced or separated. Of the Black youths committed in 1987, 43% had parents who were never married. The relationship between race and parents' marital status is statistically significant.

TABLE XV

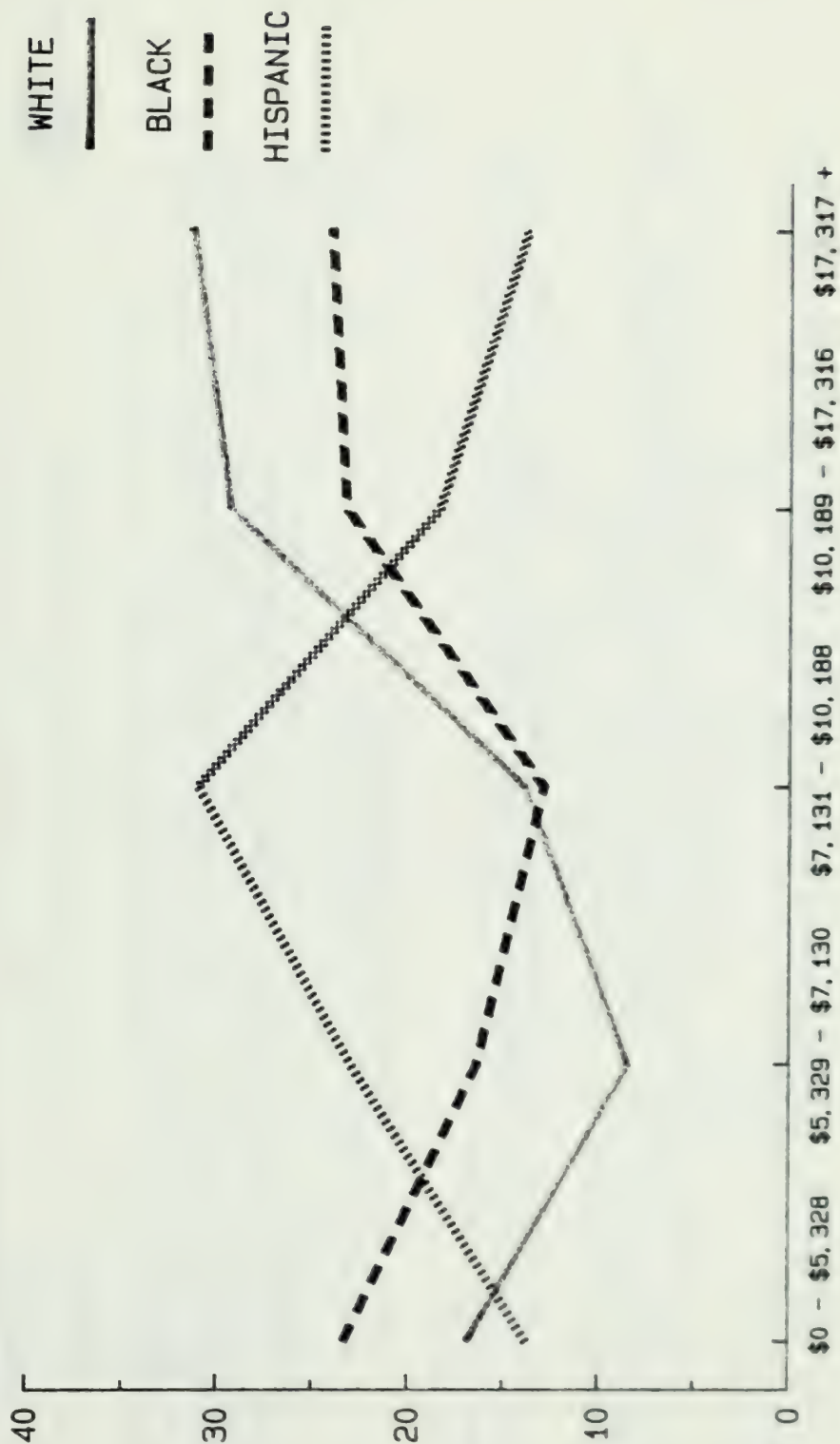
AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

1987

	WHITE			BLACK			HISPANIC			OTHER		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGE:												
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	1	8.3%	0.2%	6	50.0%	3.1%	4	33.3%	3.2%	1	8.3%	16.7%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	10	50.0%	2.4%	5	25.0%	2.6%	4	20.0%	3.2%	1	5.0%	16.7%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	48	52.2%	11.4%	25	27.2%	12.8%	18	19.6%	14.2%	1	1.1%	16.7%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	98	54.7%	23.2%	51	28.5%	26.0%	30	16.8%	23.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	149	58.7%	35.3%	64	25.2%	32.7%	38	15.0%	29.9%	3	1.2%	50.0%
16.6 +	116	59.8%	27.5%	45	23.2%	23.0%	33	17.0%	26.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
FAMILY INCOME:												
\$0 - \$5,328	50	55.6%	16.9%	27	30.0%	23.3%	12	13.3%	13.8%	1	1.1%	20.0%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	25	38.5%	8.5%	19	29.2%	16.4%	20	30.8%	23.0%	1	1.5%	20.0%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	41	49.4%	13.9%	15	18.1%	12.9%	27	32.5%	31.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	87	65.9%	29.4%	27	20.5%	23.3%	16	12.1%	18.4%	2	1.5%	40.0%
\$17,317 +	93	69.4%	31.4%	28	20.9%	24.1%	12	9.0%	13.8%	1	0.8%	20.0%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:												
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	89	74.8%	23.1%	16	13.5%	11.8%	13	10.9%	12.2%	1	0.8%	20.0%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	202	66.4%	52.3%	52	17.1%	38.2%	48	15.8%	44.9%	2	0.7%	40.0%
NEVER MARRIED	49	34.0%	12.7%	59	41.0%	43.4%	34	23.6%	31.8%	2	1.4%	40.0%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	28	70.0%	7.3%	4	10.0%	2.9%	8	20.0%	7.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%
OTHER	18	66.7%	4.7%	5	18.5%	3.7%	4	14.8%	3.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%

GRAPH 7 FAMILY INCOME BY RACE 1987

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES
IN EACH RACE CATEGORY



INCOME

SECTION IV

The proportion of newly committed youths who are male has remained fairly constant over the past several years, ranging from 86% to 89% of all youths committed.

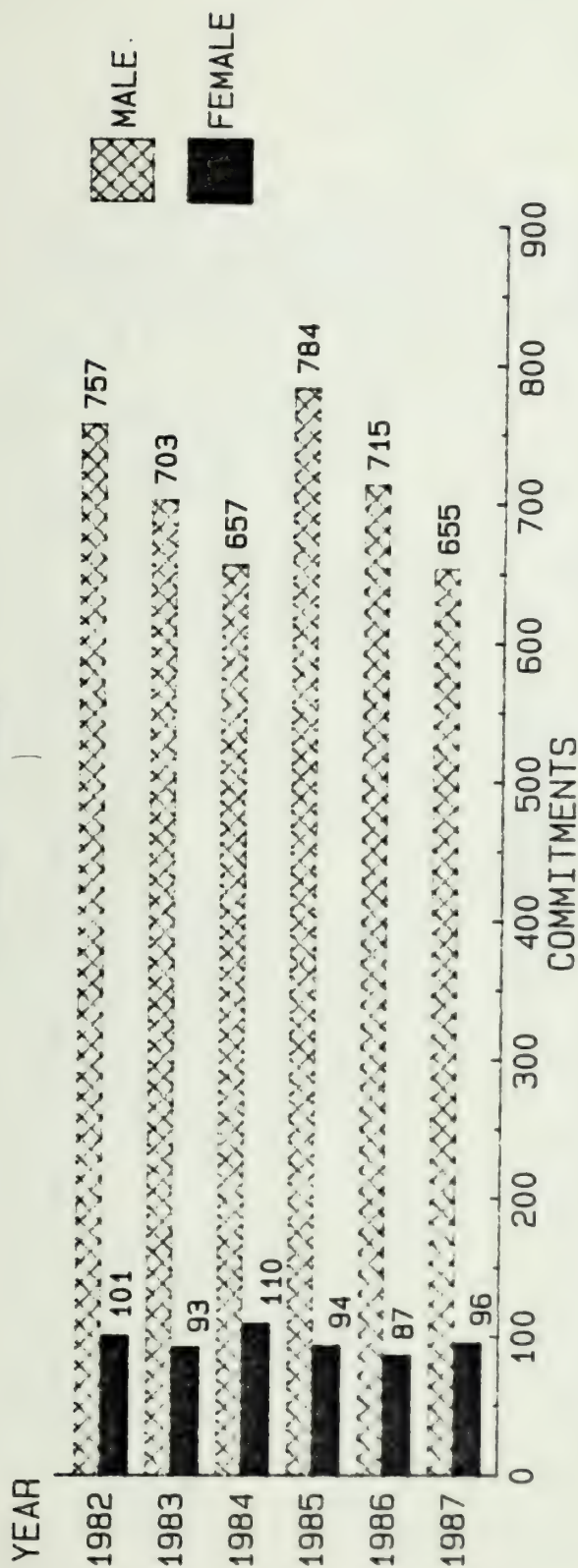
There has been a decrease over time in the proportion of youths committed who are White. In 1982, 70.9% of the new commitments to DYS were White. This figure has decreased steadily to 56.2% in 1987. The percents of commitments who are Black or Hispanic has risen proportionately over time.

The percentage of new commitments in each region varies from year to year. However, for the past four years the Metro region has committed the greatest number of youths, and in 1987 accounted for 27.7% of the total number of new commitments.

The mean age at commitment has remained fairly stable since 1982, ranging from 15 years 7 months to 15 years 9 months.

Another variable which has remained fairly between 1982 and 1987 is the charge type for which youths are committed. Youths committed for property offenses continue to account for over 50% of the total number of commitments while youths committed for person offenses have constituted between 26% and 31% of the total new commitments from 1982 to 1987. Commitments for motor vehicle offenses and other offenses remain relatively low.

GRAPH 8
NEW COMMITMENTS BY SEX
1982 - 1987



NEW COMMITMENTS, 1982 - 1987
PERCENT CHANGE

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
1982	-7.2%	-10.6%	+2.3%	-6.5%	-12.5%
1983	-	-3.6%	+10.3%	+8%	-5.7%
1984	-	-	+14.5%	+4.6%	-2.1%
1985	-	-	-	-8.7%	-14.5%
1986	-	-	-	-	-6.4%

NOTE: These figures do not replicate data in previous Analysis of Commitment reports as youths' commitments have subsequently been revised and revoked.

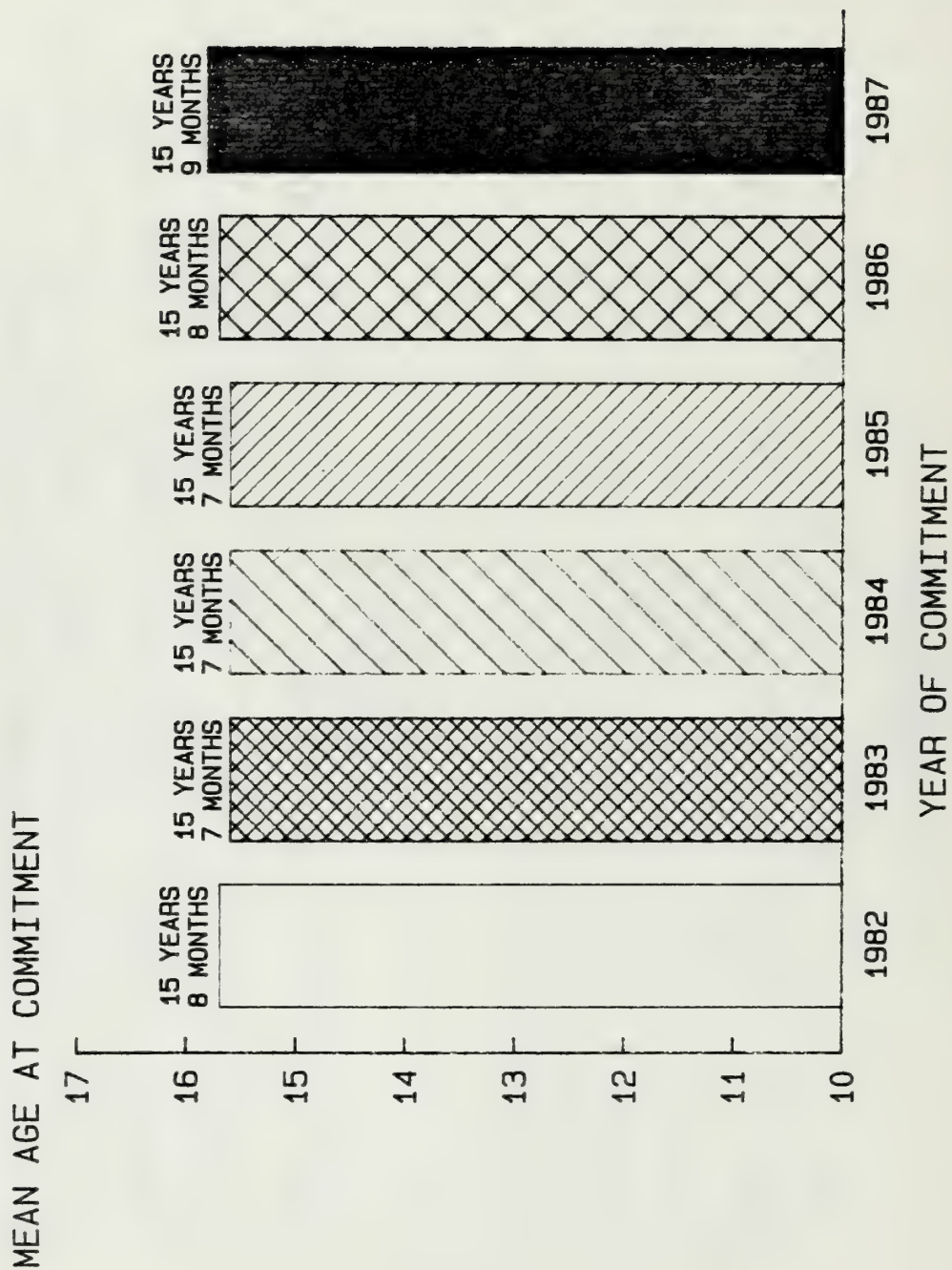
TABLE XVI
NEW COMMITMENTS BY RACE
1982 - 1987

RACE	1982 n	1982 %	1983 n	1983 %	1984 n	1984 %	1985 n	1985 %	1986 n	1986 %	1987 n	1987 %
WHITE	608	70.9%	554	69.6%	550	71.7%	569	64.8%	515	64.2%	422	56.2%
BLACK	160	18.6%	140	17.6%	132	17.2%	193	22.0%	179	22.3%	196	26.1%
HISPANIC	85	9.9%	90	11.3%	74	9.6%	108	12.3%	99	12.3%	127	16.9%
OTHER	5	0.6%	12	1.5%	11	1.4%	8	0.9%	9	1.1%	6	0.8%

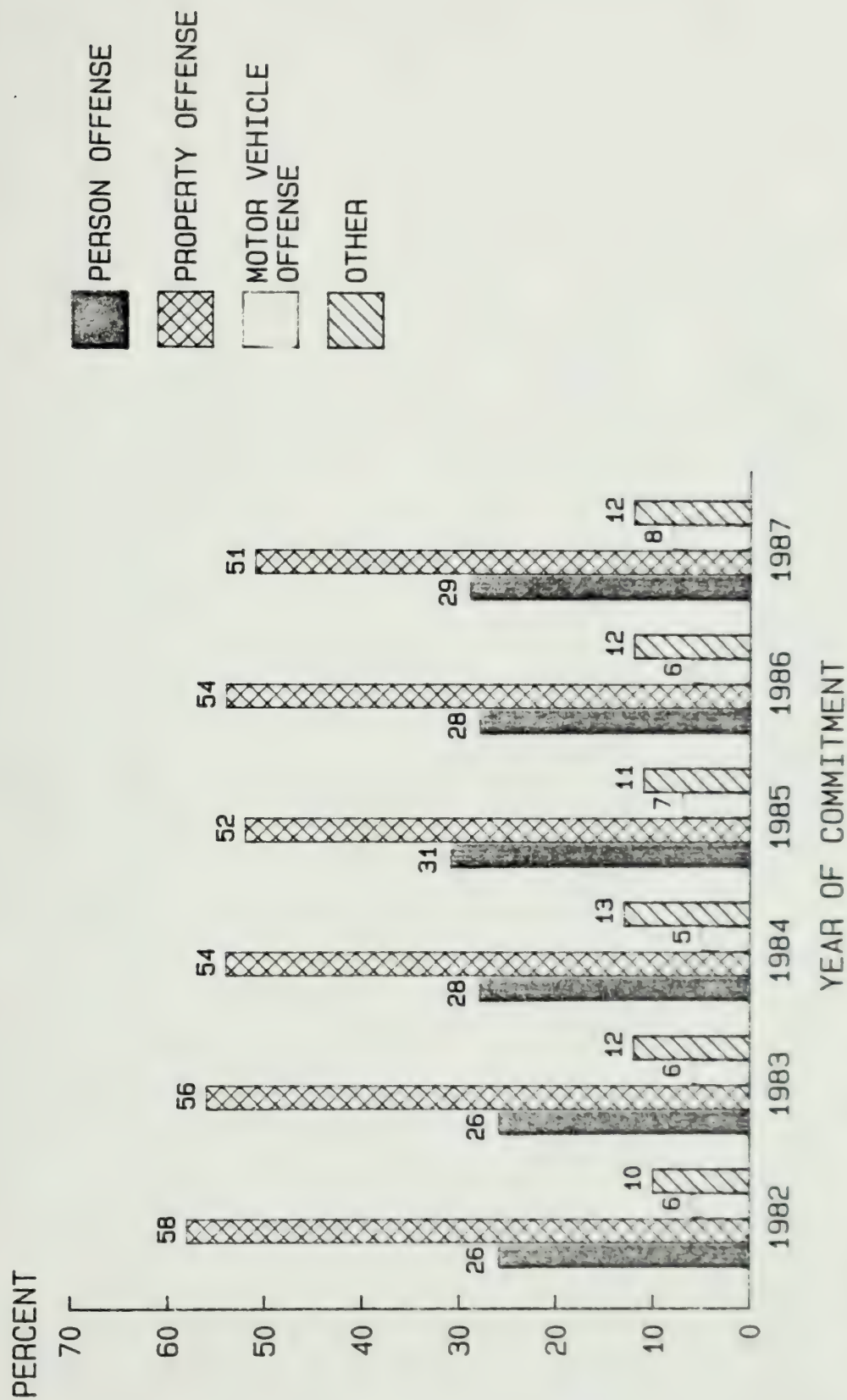
TABLE XVII
NEW COMMITMENTS BY REGION
1982 - 1987

REGION	1982 n	1982 %	1983 n	1983 %	1984 n	1984 %	1985 n	1985 %	1986 n	1986 %	1987 n	1987 %
WESTERN	175	20.4%	184	23.1%	136	17.7%	185	21.1%	147	18.3%	159	21.2%
CENTRAL	173	20.2%	141	17.7%	166	21.6%	180	20.5%	156	19.5%	118	15.7%
N. EAST	171	19.9%	155	19.5%	150	19.6%	186	21.2%	152	19.0%	122	16.2%
S. EAST	168	19.6%	161	20.2%	148	19.3%	131	14.9%	139	17.3%	144	19.2%
METRO	171	19.9%	155	19.5%	167	21.8%	196	22.3%	208	25.9%	208	27.7%

GRAPH 9
 MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT
 1982 - 1987



GRAPH 10
COMMITMENTS BY CHARGE TYPE
1982 - 1987



Note: This graph does not include missing data.

APPENDIX - EXPLANATION OF MISSING DATA

In several of the tables of this report, the numbers of youths in individual categories do not add up to the total number of 1987 commitments, 751. In some cases not all of the information concerning a particular youth is available. Missing data are not included in the calculation of percentages and therefore do not affect the findings of this report.

For six of the variables all the data were collected for each of the 751 youths: region, sex, race, age, court and offense. Data for four of the variables was not available for all youths: zip code, 23% missing, last grade completed, 8%, parents' marital status, 17%, and family income, 33%.

ANALYSIS OF COMMITMENT, 1988
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
EDWARD J. LOUGHRAN, COMMISSIONER

RECEIVED

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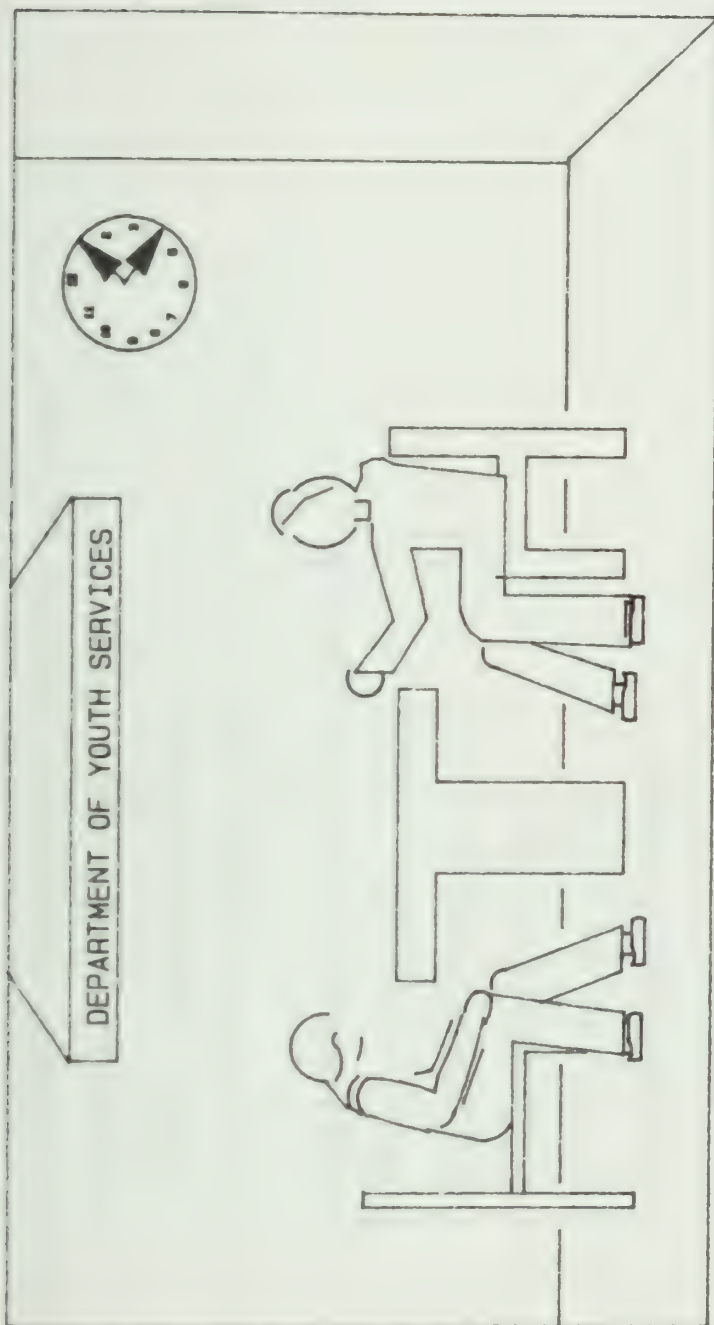
DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

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47, 48, 49



The typical newly committed youth is white, male, and was judged by the court to be delinquent of a burglary or larceny offense. His age is fifteen years, nine months. His family income is more than \$17,317 each year, and his parents are divorced or separated. He has completed the eighth grade, placing him roughly two years below grade level.

INTRODUCTION

TABLE I	COMMITMENT RATES, 1982 - 1988
GRAPH I	ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS, 1982 - 1988
SECTION I	CHANGES IN CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS, 1987 - 1988
TABLE II	CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS
TABLE III	SPECIFIC COMMITTING OFFENSE
TABLE IV	HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS
SECTION II	CHARACTERISTICS OF 1988 COMMITMENTS
TABLE V	RACE, SEX AND AGE BY REGION
GRAPH 2	COMMITMENTS BY SEX
GRAPH 3	COMMITMENTS BY RACE
TABLE VI	RACE AND SEX BY REGION
TABLE VII	AGE AND INCOME BY REGION
GRAPH 4	AGE BY REGION
GRAPH 5	FAMILY INCOME BY REGION
TABLE VIII	OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
GRAPH 6	OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE IX	SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
TABLE X	MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION
TABLE XI	LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION
GRAPH 7	LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

SECTION III

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CLIENTS' DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

TABLE XII

SEX, OFFENSE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

GRAPH 8

PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

TABLE XIII

AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

GRAPH 9

FAMILY INCOME BY RACE

TABLE XIV

SPECIFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSE TYPES BY SEX

TABLE XV

AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

SECTION IV

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, 1982 - 1988

GRAPH 10

NEW COMMITMENTS BY SEX

TABLE XVI

NEW COMMITMENTS BY RACE

TABLE XVII

NEW COMMITMENTS BY REGION

GRAPH 11

MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT

GRAPH 12

COMMITMENTS BY OFFENSE TYPE

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A

CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS WHOSE COMMITMENTS WERE REVISED/REVOKED

APPENDIX B

EXPLANATION OF MISSING DATA

INTRODUCTION

The 1988 Analysis of Commitment report, produced by the Bureau of Planning, Research and Systems, presents data regarding youths committed to the Department of Youth Services during the calendar year 1988. The report profiles the newly committed youth, utilizing a variety of demographic variables which were collected at the time of intake and entered onto DYS' automated client tracking system. Comparative data is utilized from earlier years in order to suggest present and future trends in commitments.

The 1988 Analysis of Commitment report is divided into four sections. Section I highlights 1988 trends in commitment, comparing 1987 and 1988 data. Section II discusses 1988 information, specifically regional disparities and trends. Section III presents relationships between various client demographic characteristics of youths committed in 1988. Section IV looks at historical trends in commitment data, from 1982 - 1988. Finally, the Appendix explains "missing" information, or data which was not collected by the regional offices during client intake and was therefore unavailable for analysis.

Commitments decreased again this year, falling 6% to seven hundred fourteen newly committed youths in 1988. After an unusually high number of commitments in 1985, rates of commitment have decreased steadily and were 19% lower in 1988 than they were in 1985.

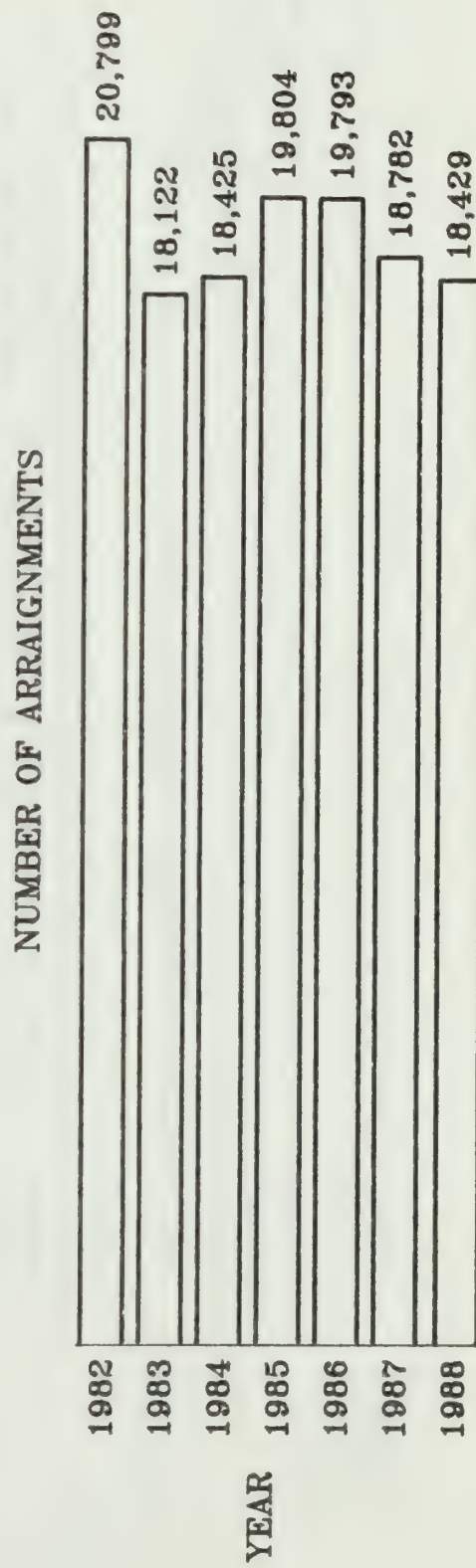
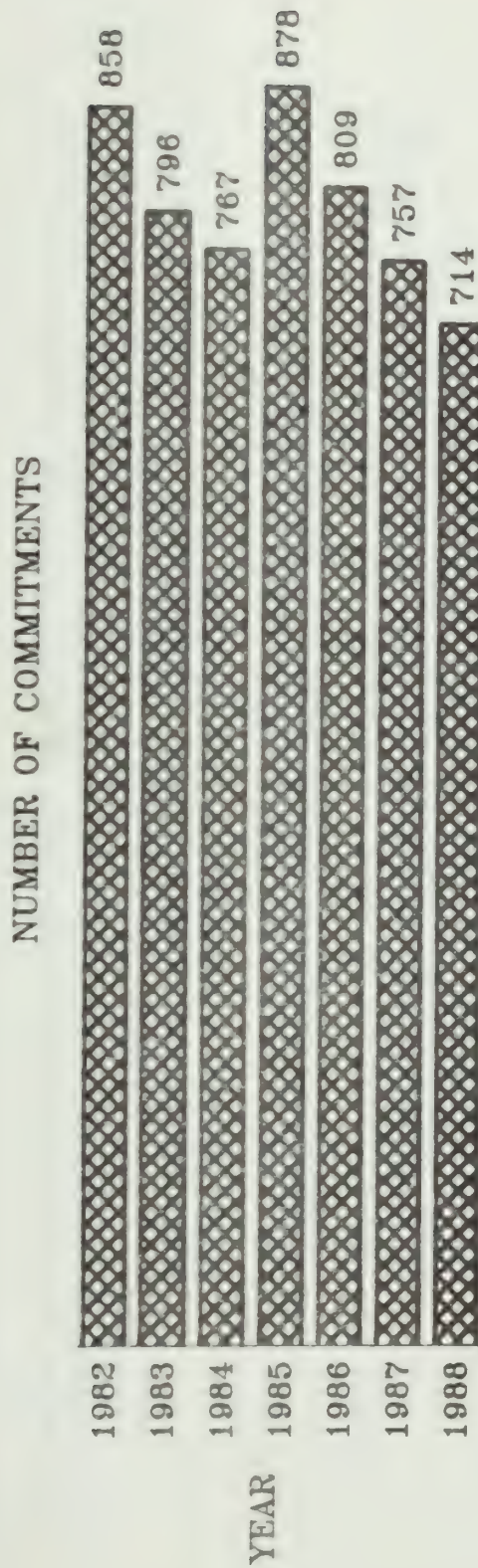
Juvenile arraignments also decreased this year, dropping two percent from 18,782 in 1987 to 18,429 in 1988. This is a smaller decrease than occurred from 1986 to 1987. The commitment rate for 1988 was 3.9% which is slightly lower than has been seen in previous years.

It should be noted that data in this report may not match previous issues of the Analysis of Commitment. Contrary to previous years, data has been included for the several youths whose commitments were subsequently revised and revoked in both 1987 and 1988.

TABLE I
COMMITMENT RATES, 1982 - 1988

	NUMBER OF YOUTHS COMMITTED	NUMBER OF ARRAIGNMENTS	COMMITMENT RATE
1982	858	20,799	4.1%
1983	796	18,122	4.4%
1984	767	18,425	4.2%
1985	878	19,804	4.4%
1986	809	19,793	4.1%
1987	757	18,782	4.0%
1988	714	18,429	3.9%

GRAPH 1
ARRAIGNMENTS AND NEW COMMITMENTS TO DYS
1982 - 1988



SECTION I - HIGHLIGHTS

TABLE II - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS 1987 - 1988

Characteristics of incoming clients have changed over the past year. Specifically significant are the changes in offense type and family income. Table II presents comparative demographic data for 1987 - 1988.

AGE :	From 1987 to 1988 the largest decrease in commitments, by age, (9.4%) occurred in the number youths newly committed who were 14.6 - 15.5 years of age. The majority of new commitments (33.6%) continue to fall in the 15.6 - 16.5 age group.
SEX :	The number of newly committed females dropped 17% from 1987 to 1988, and the number of males committed to the Department during this time period decreased 4%.
RACE :	Fifty-three percent of the youths committed to the Department in 1988 were white, 28.3% were black, 17.2% were Hispanic and 1.8% of the 714 youths were of some other ethnic origin. While the number of white and Hispanic youths committed dropped 12% and 3% respectively from 1987, the number of black youths committed increased 3%.
REGION :	With 166 newly committed youths, (23% of all new commitments) the Metro region again had the greatest proportion of new commitments in 1988. The Metro region also showed the greatest decrease in new commitments, dropping 20% since last year. The Southeast region showed a decrease of 14%, and the Western region showed consistency with last year's figures, decreasing less than one percent in 1988. The Central and Northeast showed increases of 7% and 9%, respectively.
OFFENSE TYPE :	Again this year, property offenders comprised the largest proportion of new commitments to the Department. This year, however, the number of youths committed for person and property offenses dropped 22% and 34% respectively. Youths committed for controlled substance offenses showed a 67% increase, with 26 more youths being committed for these offenses than were last year. There was a 14% increase in the number of youths committed for motor vehicle offenses this year.
FAMILY INCOME :	The number of new commitments in each family income group has dropped more than 22%, with the exception of the highest income category, (\$17,317 or more).

TABLE II
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS
1987 - 1988

	1987		1988		CHANGE 1987-1988		CHANGE 1983-1988	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS	757	100.0%	714	100.0%	-43	-5.7%	-85	-10.6%
AGE:								
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	12	1.6%	8	1.1%	-4	-33.3%	-4	-33.3%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	20	2.6%	24	3.4%	4	20.0%	-10	-29.4%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	92	12.2%	87	12.2%	-5	-5.4%	-9	-9.4%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	180	23.8%	164	23.0%	-16	-8.9%	-5	-3.0%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	257	33.9%	240	33.6%	-17	-6.6%	5	2.1%
16.6 +	196	25.9%	191	26.8%	-5	-2.6%	17	9.8%
SEX:								
MALE	659	87.1%	632	88.5%	-27	-4.1%	-71	-10.1%
FEMALE	98	12.9%	82	11.5%	-16	-16.3%	-12	-12.8%
RACE:								
WHITE	427	56.4%	376	52.7%	-51	-11.9%	-178	-32.1%
BLACK	197	26.0%	202	28.3%	5	2.5%	65	47.4%
HISPANIC	127	16.8%	123	17.2%	-4	-3.1%	31	33.7%
OTHER	6	0.8%	13	1.8%	7	116.7%	1	8.3%
REGION:								
WESTERN	160	21.1%	159	22.3%	-1	-0.6%	-23	-12.6%
CENTRAL	121	16.0%	131	18.3%	10	8.3%	-9	-6.4%
NORTHEAST	122	16.1%	133	18.6%	11	9.0%	-21	-13.6%
SOUTHEAST	146	19.3%	125	17.5%	-21	-14.4%	-43	-25.6%
METRO	208	27.5%	166	23.2%	-42	-20.2%	13	8.5%
OFFENSE TYPE:								
PERSON	221	29.2%	185	25.9%	-36	-16.3%	-20	-9.8%
PROPERTY	391	51.7%	345	48.3%	-46	-11.8%	-97	-21.9%
MOTOR VEHICLE	58	7.7%	66	9.2%	8	13.8%	19	40.4%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	39	5.2%	65	9.1%	26	66.7%	42	182.6%
OTHER	48	6.3%	53	7.4%	5	10.4%	-23	-30.3%
FAMILY INCOME:								
0 - \$5,328	90	17.9%	69	16.7%	-21	-23.3%	-54	-43.9%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	65	12.9%	43	10.4%	-22	-33.8%	-51	-54.3%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	83	16.5%	59	14.3%	-24	-28.9%	-50	-45.9%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	132	26.2%	85	20.6%	-47	-35.6%	-48	-36.1%
\$17,317 +	134	26.6%	157	38.0%	23	17.2%	16	11.3%

As seen in previous years, burglary and possession of burglarious tools were the most common offenses for which a youth was committed to the Department, constituting 17.6% of the total number of youths committed in 1988. Youths who had committed larceny offenses accounted for another 17.4% of the total number of 1988 commitments. Although burglary and possession of burglarious tools accounted for the greatest number of new commitments in 1988, it also exhibited a large decrease between 1987 and 1988 (-21%). One of the largest increases in the number of new commitments fell within controlled substance offenses (+67%).

TABLE III
SPECIFIC COMMITTING OFFENSE
1987 - 1988

OFFENSE	1987		1988		CHANGE 1987 - 1988		CHANGE 1983 - 1988	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
MURDER	3	0.4%	2	0.3%	-1	-33.3%	-2	-50.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	4	0.5%	5	0.7%	1	25.0%	2	66.7%
ARMED ASSAULT	86	11.4%	60	8.4%	-26	-30.2%	1	1.7%
UNARMED ASSAULT	57	7.5%	54	7.6%	-3	-5.3%	-9	-14.3%
ARMED ROBBERY	14	1.8%	10	1.4%	-4	-28.6%	-7	-41.2%
UNARMED ROBBERY	17	2.2%	11	1.5%	-6	-35.3%	-17	-60.7%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	33	4.4%	37	5.2%	4	12.1%	13	54.2%
KIDNAPPING	1	0.1%	3	0.4%	2	200.0%	2	200.0%
THREATS, ETC.	6	0.8%	3	0.4%	-3	-50.0%	-2	-40.0%
OTHER PERSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	-----	-1	-100.0%
ARSON	13	1.7%	13	1.8%	0	0.0%	-1	-7.1%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	160	21.1%	126	17.6%	-34	-21.3%	-99	-44.0%
LARCENY	141	18.6%	124	17.4%	-17	-12.1%	-4	-3.1%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	39	5.2%	43	6.0%	4	10.3%	14	48.3%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	36	4.8%	39	5.5%	3	8.3%	-7	-15.2%
SEX OFFENSES	6	0.8%	5	0.7%	-1	-16.7%	-3	-37.5%
MOTOR VEHICLE	58	7.7%	66	9.2%	8	13.8%	19	40.4%
PUBLIC ORDER	42	5.5%	48	6.7%	6	14.3%	0	0.0%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	39	5.2%	65	9.1%	26	66.7%	42	182.6%
FRAUD	2	0.3%	0	0.0%	-2	-100.0%	0	-100.0%

*POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS

TABLE IV - HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS

This year eight courts committed more than twenty youths. Table IV lists these courts and compares the numbers of youths committed from them for 1987 and 1988. In 1988, Springfield Juvenile court committed 77 youths which is a 28% increase over last year, and which is the greatest number of commitments to DYS by any court this year. The number of youths committed by Boston Juvenile court and Dorchester court decreased by 19% and 17% respectively, and Worcester Juvenile court showed a substantial decrease in its commitments of 31%. The Lowell Court experienced the greatest increase, committing 87% more youths this year.

Table IV also presents the six highest contributing zip code areas for 1988. As seen in previous years there does not seem to be consistency in the top contributing zip code areas. Only Dorchester-Codman Square and Holyoke have continued to be in the top six contributing zip code areas.

TABLE IV
HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AND ZIP CODE AREAS 1987 - 1988

COURT AND ZIP CODE AREAS	1987		1988		1987 - 1988 CHANGE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
SPRINGFIELD JUVENILE	60	7.9%	77	10.8%	17	28.3%
BOSTON JUVENILE	67	8.9%	54	7.6%	-13	-19.4%
DORCHESTER	53	7.0%	44	6.2%	-9	-17.0%
LOWELL	23	3.0%	43	6.0%	20	87.0%
ROXBURY	31	4.1%	32	4.5%	1	3.2%
NEW BEDFORD	25	3.3%	26	3.6%	1	4.0%
LAWRENCE	27	3.6%	25	3.5%	-2	-7.4%
WORCESTER JUVENILE	35	4.6%	24	3.4%	-11	-31.4%
ZIP CODE						
ROXBURY (02119)	12	2.1%	19	4.6%	-7	13.2%
SPRINGFIELD (01109)	20	5.1%	18	3.9%	2	4.5%
DORCHESTER - CODMAN SQUARE (02124)	19	1.7%	16	2.7%	3	4.4%
HOLYOKE (01040)	17	1.7%	14	2.2%	3	4.8%
PITTSFIELD (01201)	9	1.3%	13	1.9%	-4	16.0%
LOWELL (01852)	8	1.2%	12	1.9%	-4	18.8%

SECTION II - HIGHLIGHTS

Tables in this section should be read as follows:

WESTERN REGION			
SEX:	N	ROW %	COL %
MALE	142	22.5 %	89.3 %

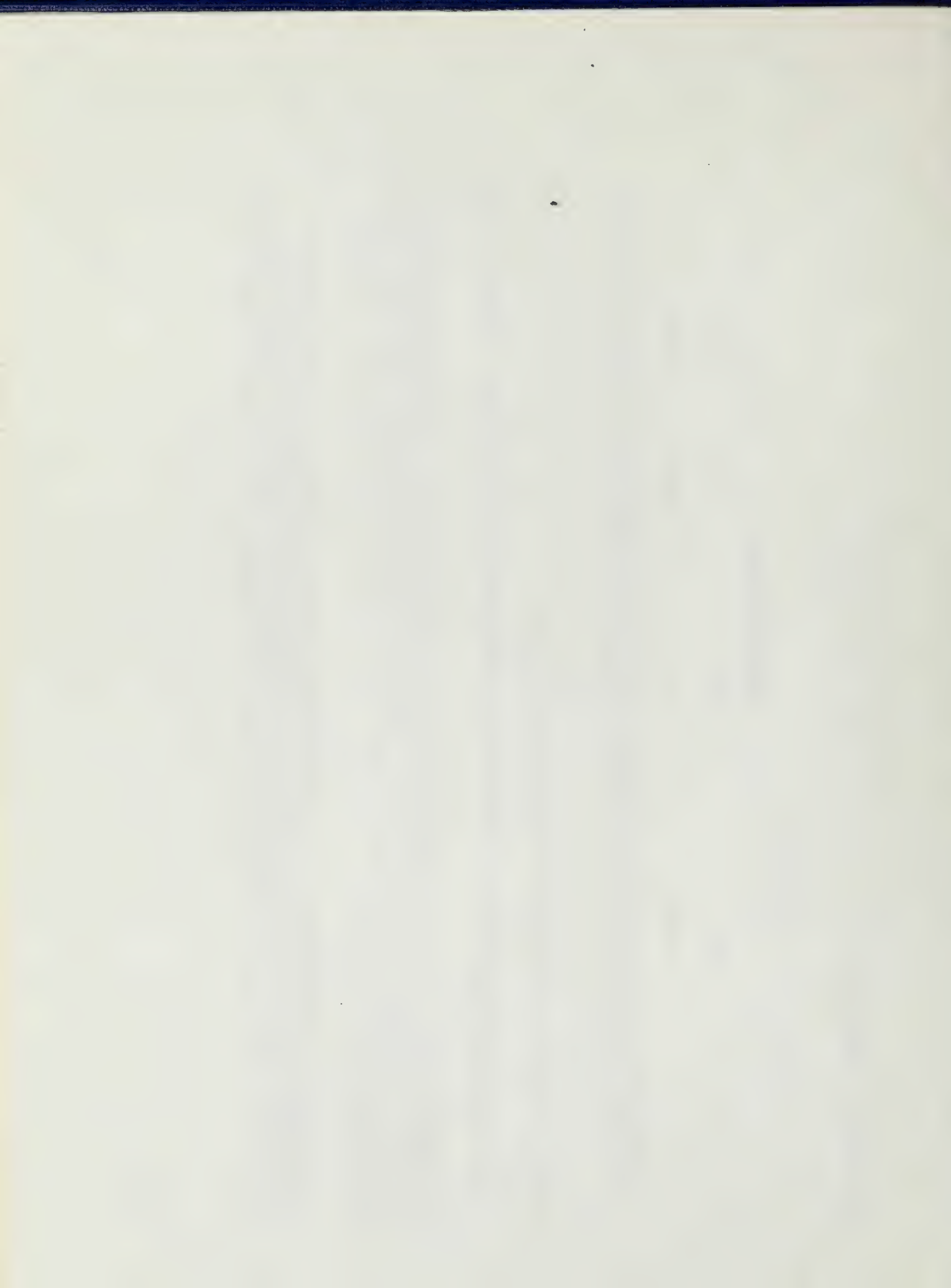
In the Western region there were 142 newly committed males. These males represent 22.5 % of all the males committed in 1988. These 142 males also represent 89.3 % of all new commitments in the Western region.

TABLE V - SEX, RACE AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

There was a fair amount of disparity in the demographics of youths committed to the various regions. Regional variations by race were particularly significant.

Metro and Western regions committed proportionately more males than any other region. Over half of the males newly committed to the Department were committed to these two regions. The Central and Metro regions had the highest proportions (23.2 %) of commitments who were female. While 15 % of the new commitments to the Central region were female, only 9 % of the new commitments to the Northeast region were female. The proportion of new commitments who were female in the remaining regions averaged about 11 %.

Two thirds of the new commitments to the Central, Northeast and Southeast regions were white youths, a proportion which is consistent with data from the past several years. Half of the youths committed to the Western region and only 10 % of the youths committed to the Metro region were white. The majority (60 %) of black youths committed in 1988 were committed to the Metro region. The majority (33 %) of Hispanic youths committed in 1988 were from the Western region.

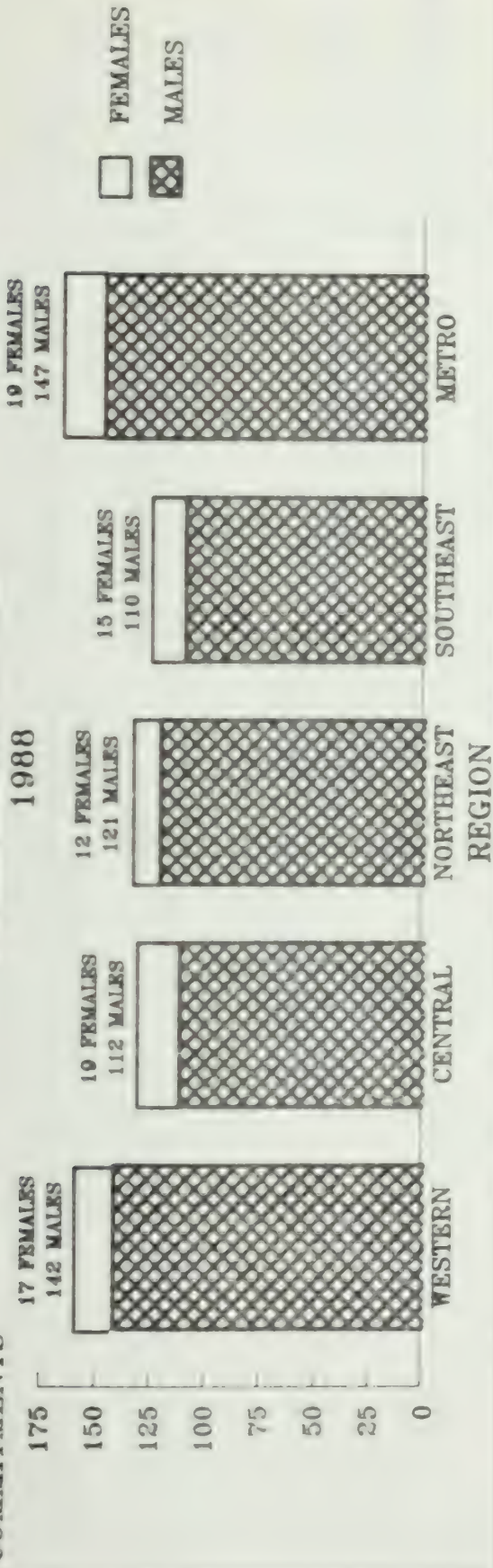


In all but the Metro region, the greatest percentage of youths committed were between 15.6 and 16.5 years old. In the Metro region, a greater number of youths were 14.6 – 15.5 years old. Comparing across regions, 26% of youths over 16.6 years old were committed in the Western region. Of the youths between the ages of 9 and 12.5, 50% or four of eight youths were committed in the Western region.

TABLE V
SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
SEX:										
MALE	142	22.5%	112	17.7%	121	19.1%	110	17.4%	147	23.3%
FEMALE	17	20.7%	19	23.2%	12	14.6%	15	18.3%	19	23.2%
		89.3%		85.5%		91.0%		88.0%		88.6%
		10.7%		14.5%		9.0%		12.0%		11.4%
RACE:										
WHITE	83	22.1%	88	23.4%	94	25.0%	95	25.3%	16	4.3%
BLACK	32	15.8%	10	5.0%	14	6.9%	26	12.9%	120	59.4%
HISPANIC	41	33.3%	30	24.4%	19	15.4%	4	3.3%	29	23.6%
OTHER	3	23.1%	3	23.1%	6	46.2%	0	0.0%	1	7.7%
		1.9%		2.3%		4.5%		0.0%		0.6%
AGE AT COMMITMENT: (IN YEARS)										
9.0 – 12.5	2	25.0%	0	0.0%	4	50.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%
12.6 – 13.5	1	4.2%	6	25.0%	5	20.8%	2	8.3%	10	41.7%
13.6 – 14.5	13	14.9%	20	23.0%	16	18.4%	18	20.7%	20	23.0%
14.6 – 15.5	33	20.1%	35	21.3%	22	13.4%	26	15.9%	48	29.3%
15.6 – 16.5	61	25.4%	36	15.0%	47	19.6%	50	20.8%	46	19.2%
16.6 + OVER	49	25.7%	34	17.8%	39	20.4%	29	15.2%	40	20.9%
		30.8%		26.0%		29.3%		23.2%		24.1%

GRAPH 2
COMMITMENTS BY SEX
1988



GRAPH 3
COMMITMENTS BY RACE
1988

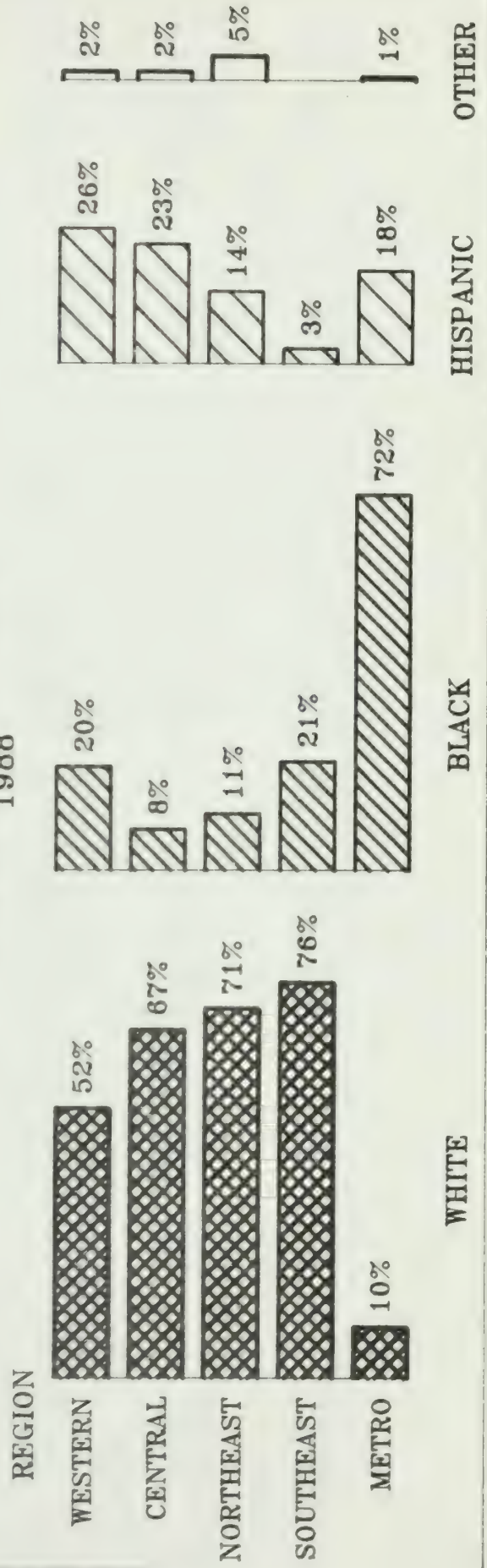


TABLE VI - RACE AND SEX BY REGION

The highest proportion of white males committed in 1988 (26%) were committed to the Northeast and Southeast regions. The Metro region again overwhelmingly had the greatest proportion of newly committed black males -- 63%, and the Western region again had the greatest proportion of newly committed Hispanic males -- 33%.

The greatest proportion (32%) of white females were committed to the Central region, the greatest percent (64%) of black females were committed to the Metro region, and the highest proportion (40%) of Hispanic females were committed to the Western region.

**TABLE VI
RACE AND SEX BY REGION**

	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
WHITE:										
MALE	72	21.7% 45.3%	74	22.3% 56.5%	86	25.9% 64.7%	85	25.6% 68.0%	15	4.5% 9.0%
FEMALE	11	25.0% 6.9%	14	31.8% 10.7%	8	18.2% 6.0%	10	22.7% 8.0%	1	2.3% 0.6%
BLACK:										
MALE	31	17.5% 19.5%	8	4.5% 6.1%	12	6.8% 9.0%	22	12.4% 17.6%	104	58.8% 62.7%
FEMALE	1	4.0% 0.6%	2	8.0% 1.5%	2	8.0% 1.5%	4	16.0% 3.2%	16	64.0% 9.6%
HISPANIC:										
MALE	37	32.7% 23.3%	28	24.8% 21.4%	18	15.9% 13.5%	3	2.7% 2.4%	27	23.9% 16.3%
FEMALE	4	40.0% 2.5%	2	20.0% 1.5%	1	10.0% 0.8%	1	10.0% 0.8%	2	20.0% 1.2%
OTHER:										
MALE	2	20.0% 1.3%	2	20.0% 1.5%	5	50.0% 3.8%	0	----- 0.0%	1	10.0% 0.6%
FEMALE	1	33.3% 0.6%	1	33.3% 0.8%	1	33.3% 0.8%	0	----- 0.0%	0	----- 0.0%

TABLE VII - AGE AND INCOME BY REGION

There is some disparity in client age by region, and significant variation in family income by region. Table VII examines, by region, comparisons of family income and client age. "Average" age and income are represented by the mean and median. Highest and lowest cases are included as well for each variable.

In calculating the average age, the mean is the more commonly reported statistic than the median. While the average age of newly committed youths this year was 15.7 (15 years, eight months) there were slight variations by region. Contrary to 1986 and 1987 data, this year the Western region reported a mean age of 16.0, which was the highest average age of any region. The Central region and Metro regions reported the lowest average age of 15.6 (15 years, 7 months).

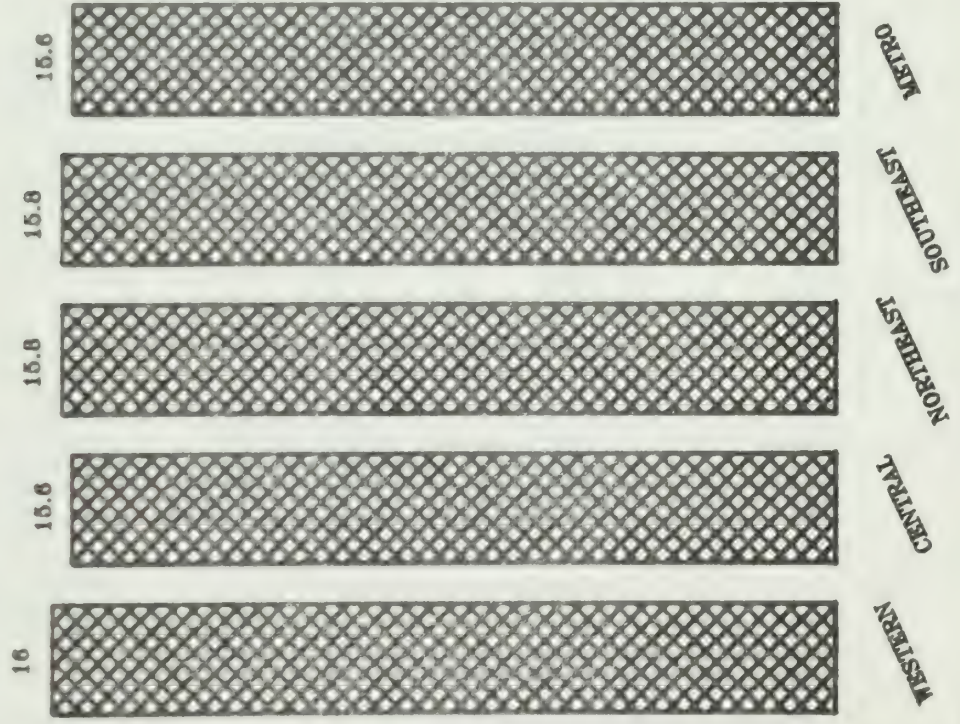
In examining the average family income, the median is the most commonly utilized statistic. The statewide average family income this year was \$12,864. While the average family income for youths in the Central region was 44% higher than average (\$18,480), family incomes in the Western region were 25% lower than average (\$9,600) and family incomes in the Metro region were 41% below the average. (\$7,531). Family incomes in the Northeast and Southeast regions were 3% and 10% higher than average, respectively. These disparities in family income are less significant if regional variations in racial distribution are taken into account.

**TABLE VII
AGE AND INCOME BY REGION**

	WESTERN	CENTRAL	NORTHEAST	SOUTHEAST	METRO	TOTAL
AGE:						
MEAN AGE	16.0	15.6	15.8	15.8	15.6	15.7
MEDIAN AGE	16.1	15.8	16.0	16.0	15.7	15.9
LOWEST AGE	12.0	12.7	12.1	12.9	11.8	11.8
HIGHEST AGE	17.9	17.7	18.3	17.9	17.7	18.3
INCOME:						
MEAN INCOME	\$13,493	\$20,812	\$16,436	\$18,715	\$11,061	\$16,383
MEDIAN INCOME	\$9,600	\$18,480	\$13,224	\$14,160	\$7,531	\$12,864
LOWEST INCOME	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$114	\$0
HIGHEST INCOME	\$64,080	\$62,000	\$82,000	\$60,000	\$58,632	\$82,000

GRAPH 4
AGE BY REGION

MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT



GRAPH 5
FAMILY INCOME BY REGION

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME

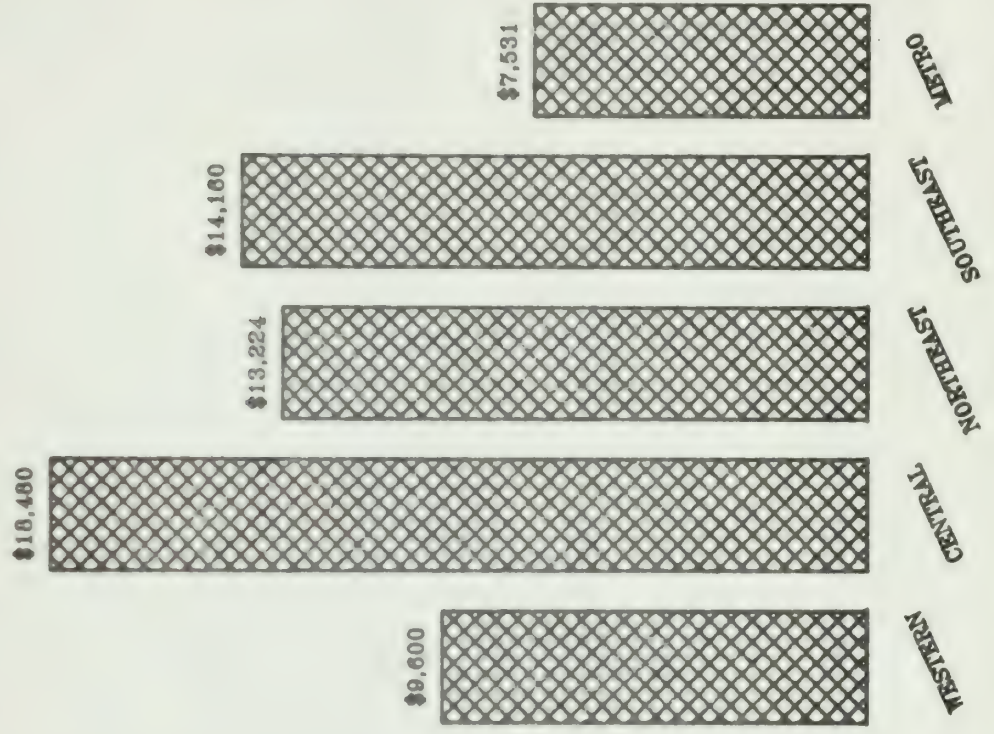


TABLE VIII -- OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

Commitment offenses varied significantly by region. This year, the Metro region maintained a high proportion of new commitments who were person offenders relative to the other regions, (35%). One third of all person offenders committed to DYS in 1988 were committed to the Metro region, which also reported proportionately fewer property offenders as compared with other regions. The Metro region, as well as the Western region, reported higher proportions (about 17%) of youths committed for controlled substance offenses. Of all youths committed to the Department for controlled substance offenses the highest proportions, 43% and 40% respectively, were committed to these two regions. In all regions the most common reason for a new commitment was a property offense.

TABLE VIII
OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

OFFENSE TYPE	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
AGAINST PERSON	39	21.1% 24.5%	26	14.1% 19.8%	33	17.8% 24.8%	29	15.7% 23.2%	58	31.4% 34.9%
AGAINST PROPERTY	71	20.6% 44.7%	70	20.3% 53.4%	70	20.3% 52.6%	73	21.2% 58.4%	61	17.7% 36.7%
MOTOR VEHICLE	12	18.2% 7.5%	20	30.3% 15.3%	20	30.3% 15.0%	7	10.6% 5.6%	7	10.6% 4.2%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	26	40.0% 16.4%	3	4.6% 2.3%	3	4.6% 2.3%	5	7.7% 4.0%	28	43.1% 16.9%
OTHER	11	20.8% 6.9%	12	22.6% 9.2%	7	13.2% 5.3%	11	20.8% 8.8%	12	22.6% 7.2%

GRAPH 6
OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
1988

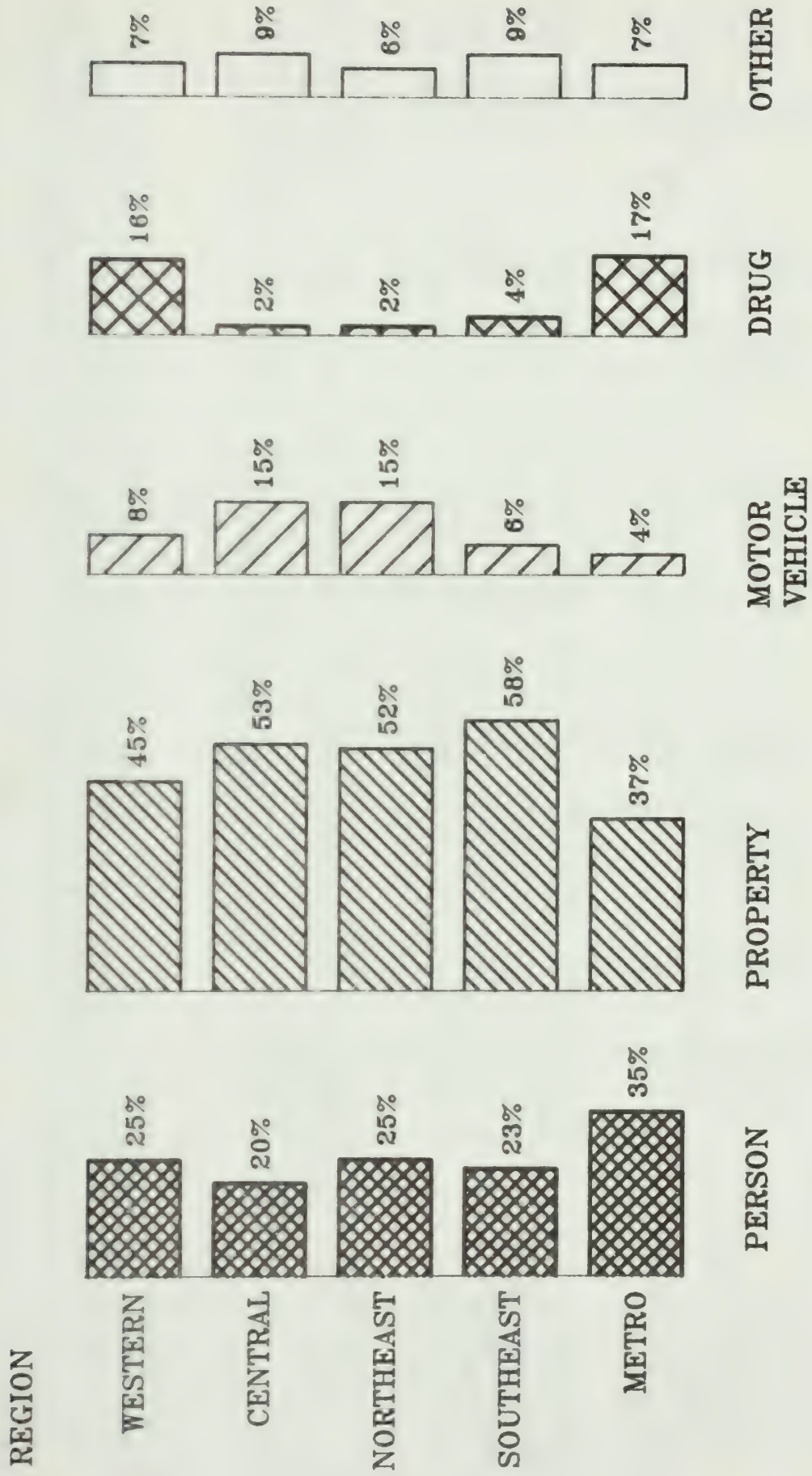


TABLE IX - SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

While burglary and larceny continue to be the two most common commitment charges statewide, this is not the case in all five regions. This year in the Northeast region there were more youths committed for motor vehicle offenses than for larceny offenses. A far lower percent of youths in the Metro region were committed for burglary and possession of burglarious tools than in any other region.

Comparing row percentages for offenses against the person for regions with five or more youths committed for these offenses, the Metro region had a disproportionately high share of armed and unarmed assaults and the Western region had a larger portion of youths committed for sexual assaults.

Comparing row percentages for property offenses for regions with five or more youths committed for these individual offenses, the Western region had a disproportionately high number of controlled substance offenses, as did the Metro region. Metro additionally had a lower number of burglary offenses, and a high proportion of receiving stolen property offenses. The Northeast region, as well as the Central region had the highest proportion of motor vehicle offenses. The Southeast region had the highest proportion of burglary and larceny offenders.

**TABLE IX
SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION**

OFFENSE	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
MURDER	0	0.0% 0.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	50.0% 0.8%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	50.0% 0.6%
MANSLAUGHTER	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	20.0% 0.8%	1	20.0% 0.8%	1	20.0% 0.8%	2	40.0% 1.2%
ARMED ASSAULT	11	18.3% 6.9%	11	18.3% 8.4%	9	15.0% 6.8%	8	13.3% 6.4%	21	35.0% 12.7%
UNARMED ASSAULT	12	22.2% 7.5%	6	11.1% 4.6%	10	18.5% 7.5%	8	14.8% 6.4%	18	33.3% 10.8%
ARMED ROBBERY	2	20.0% 1.3%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	10.0% 0.8%	2	20.0% 1.6%	5	50.0% 3.0%
UNARMED ROBBERY	2	18.2% 1.3%	1	9.1% 0.8%	3	27.3% 2.3%	3	27.3% 2.4%	2	18.2% 1.2%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	11	29.7% 6.9%	7	18.9% 5.3%	6	16.2% 4.5%	7	18.9% 5.6%	6	16.2% 3.6%
KIDNAPPING	0	0.0% 0.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%	2	66.7% 1.5%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	33.3% 0.6%
THREATS	1	33.3% 0.6%	0	0.0% 0.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%	2	66.7% 1.2%
ARSON	5	38.5% 3.1%	4	30.8% 3.1%	2	15.4% 1.5%	1	7.7% 0.8%	1	7.7% 0.6%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	27	21.4% 17.0%	27	21.4% 20.6%	29	23.0% 21.8%	32	25.4% 25.6%	11	8.7% 6.6%
LARCENY	27	21.8% 17.0%	27	21.8% 20.6%	19	15.3% 14.3%	29	23.4% 23.2%	22	17.7% 13.3%
REC. STOLEN PROPERTY	7	16.3% 4.4%	7	16.3% 5.3%	6	14.0% 4.5%	2	4.7% 1.6%	21	48.8% 12.7%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	5	12.8% 3.1%	5	12.8% 3.8%	14	35.9% 10.6%	9	23.1% 7.2%	6	15.4% 3.6%
SEX OFFENSES	1	20.0% 0.6%	2	40.0% 1.5%	0	0.0% 0.0%	2	40.0% 1.6%	0	0.0% 0.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	12	18.2% 7.5%	20	30.3% 15.3%	20	30.3% 15.0%	7	10.6% 5.6%	7	10.6% 4.2%
PUBLIC ORDER	10	20.8% 6.3%	10	20.8% 7.6%	7	14.6% 5.3%	9	18.8% 7.2%	12	25.0% 7.2%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	26	40.0% 16.4%	3	4.6% 2.3%	3	4.6% 2.3%	5	7.7% 4.0%	28	43.1% 16.9%

*POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS

TABLE X - MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

Generally, there was slight variability in each region in the number of youths committed each month.

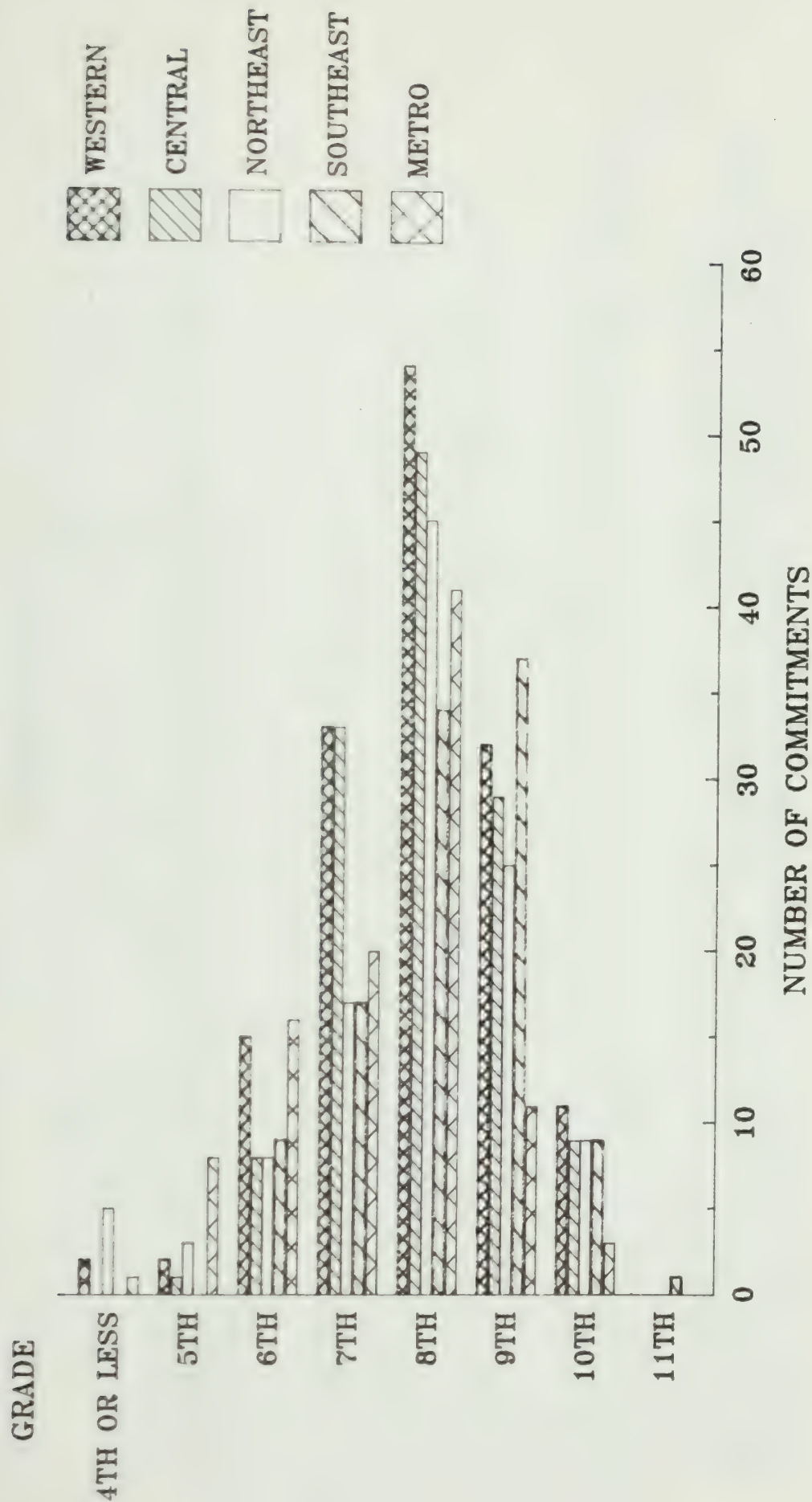
TABLE X
MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION
1988

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW	COL %	N	ROW	COL %	N	ROW	COL %	N	ROW	COL %	N	ROW	COL %
TOTAL	159	22.3%	100.0%	131	18.3%	100.0%	133	18.6%	100.0%	125	17.5%	100.0%	166	23.2%	100.0%
JANUARY	9	14.3%	5.7%	12	19.0%	9.2%	15	23.8%	11.3%	12	19.0%	9.6%	15	23.8%	9.0%
FEBRUARY	10	20.8%	6.3%	12	25.0%	9.2%	8	16.7%	6.0%	8	16.7%	6.4%	10	20.8%	6.0%
MARCH	19	25.7%	11.9%	15	20.3%	11.5%	18	24.3%	13.5%	9	12.2%	7.2%	13	17.6%	7.8%
1ST QUARTER	38	20.5%	23.9%	39	21.1%	29.8%	41	22.2%	30.8%	29	15.7%	23.2%	38	20.5%	22.9%
APRIL	13	18.1%	8.2%	10	13.9%	7.6%	16	22.2%	12.0%	15	20.8%	12.0%	18	25.0%	10.8%
MAY	11	20.4%	6.9%	10	18.5%	7.6%	8	14.8%	6.0%	9	16.7%	7.2%	16	29.6%	9.6%
JUNE	16	27.1%	10.1%	8	13.6%	6.1%	12	20.3%	9.0%	14	23.7%	11.2%	9	15.3%	5.4%
2ND QUARTER	40	21.6%	25.2%	28	15.1%	21.4%	36	19.5%	27.1%	38	20.5%	30.4%	43	23.2%	25.9%
JULY	11	21.6%	6.9%	13	25.5%	9.9%	7	13.7%	5.3%	12	23.5%	9.6%	8	15.7%	4.8%
AUGUST	18	34.0%	11.3%	12	22.6%	9.2%	7	13.2%	5.3%	6	11.3%	4.8%	10	18.9%	6.0%
SEPTEMBER	18	26.1%	11.3%	9	13.0%	6.9%	9	13.0%	6.8%	14	20.3%	11.2%	19	27.5%	11.4%
3RD QUARTER	47	27.2%	29.6%	34	19.7%	26.0%	23	13.3%	17.3%	32	18.5%	25.6%	37	21.4%	22.3%
OCTOBER	12	20.7%	7.5%	10	17.2%	7.6%	6	10.3%	4.5%	11	19.0%	8.8%	19	32.8%	11.4%
NOVEMBER	12	20.3%	7.5%	10	16.9%	7.6%	14	23.7%	10.5%	11	18.6%	8.8%	12	20.3%	7.2%
DECEMBER	10	18.5%	6.3%	10	18.5%	7.6%	13	24.1%	9.8%	4	7.4%	3.2%	17	31.5%	10.2%
4TH QUARTER	34	19.9%	21.4%	30	17.5%	22.9%	33	19.3%	24.8%	26	15.2%	20.8%	48	28.1%	28.9%

GRAPH 7

LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

1988



SECTION III - HIGHLIGHTS

Tables in this section should be read as follows:

WESTERN REGION			
SEX:	N	ROW %	COL %
MALE	107	21.1%	93.0%

In 1988, 107 boys were committed whose natural parents were married and living together at the time of intake. These 107 youths with married parents represented 21.1% of all boys. These boys also represented 93.0% of all commitments with married parents.

TABLE XII - SEX, OFFENSE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

An analysis of parents' marital status for newly committed youths shows a fair amount of disparity across several demographic variables, significantly sex and region.

Half of the youths newly committed to the Department continue to come from homes where the parents are divorced or separated. This is consistent with data from the past five years. One-fifth of the newly committed youths this year came from homes where the parents were never married.

Both males and females were more likely to come from divorced or separated family situations, although this was far more likely to be true for males than for females. In addition, males were more likely to come from homes where the parents were married and living together than females were, and females were more likely to come from homes with parents who were never married than males were.

The offense distribution for each marital status category can be determined by examining column percentages for categories of offense type. In 1988, youths whose parents were never married or youths for whom one or both parents were deceased were more likely to be person offenders than were youths from intact homes or youths whose parents were divorced or separated. In addition, 43% of the youths committed for person offenses were youths who report some other marital status for their parents (Category V).

The Metro region continues to have the lowest proportion of new commitments with intact families (12.2%). Southeast and Central regions had the highest proportion of new commitments with intact families (25%).

TABLE XII
SEX, OFFENSE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

	I		II		III		IV		V	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
TOTAL	115	20.0%	280	48.7%	124	21.6%	31	5.4%	25	4.3%
SEX:										
MALE	107	21.1%	250	49.2%	100	19.7%	29	5.7%	22	4.3%
FEMALE	8	11.9%	30	44.8%	24	35.8%	2	3.0%	3	4.5%
OFFENSE TYPE:										
PERSON	32	12.5%	62	24.3%	41	16.1%	10	3.9%	110	43.1%
PROPERTY	58	20.4%	145	50.9%	59	20.7%	12	4.2%	11	3.9%
MOTOR VEHICLE	8	14.5%	34	61.8%	6	10.9%	4	7.3%	3	5.5%
CONT. SUBSTANCE	5	11.4%	25	56.8%	11	25.0%	3	6.8%	0	0.0%
OTHER	12	32.4%	15	40.5%	7	18.9%	2	5.4%	1	2.7%
REGION:										
WESTERN	22	15.1%	81	55.5%	34	23.3%	8	5.5%	1	0.7%
CENTRAL	29	26.4%	49	44.5%	22	20.0%	4	3.6%	6	5.5%
NORTHEAST	21	17.2%	69	56.6%	19	15.6%	5	4.1%	8	6.6%
SOUTHEAST	29	24.4%	52	43.7%	26	21.9%	8	6.7%	4	3.4%
METRO	14	17.9%	29	37.2%	23	29.5%	6	7.7%	6	7.7%

MARITAL STATUS CODE
I = MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER
II = DIVORCED OR SEPARATED
III = NEVER MARRIED
IV = EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED
V = OTHER

GRAPH 8
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS
1988

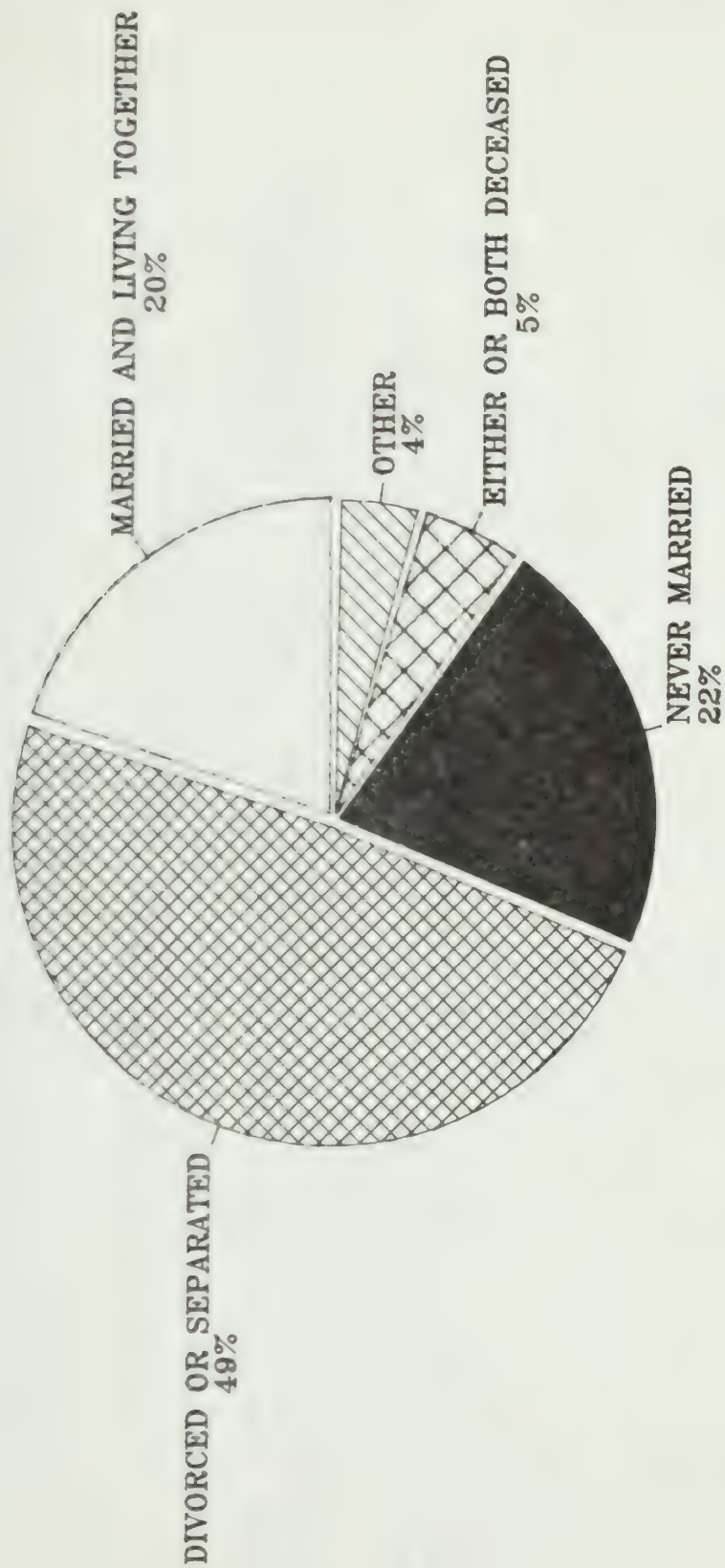


TABLE XIII – AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

Demographics of newly committed youths tended to show variation with regard to sex. Specifically significant were differences in age and parents' marital status by gender.

AGE:

A comparison of column percentages across the table shows the relationship between sex and age at commitment. Data from 1988 highlights a continuing trend which places girls at the lower end and boys at the higher end of the age range. While most girls are 14.6 to 15.5 years old at the time of commitment, most boys are 15.6 to 16.5 years of age.

RACE:

Comparing column percentages for males and females we can examine racial distributions for both sexes. This year male clients were more likely to be Hispanic (17.9%) than were female clients (12.2%) Otherwise, the racial distributions for male and female clients were fairly similar.

PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:

While 21% of the male commitments came from intact homes, 11.9% of the female clients came from homes where the parents were married and living together. The highest proportion of all youths came from divorced or separated family situations, but 36% of the females, as compared with 20% of the males, came from families where the parents were never married.

FAMILY INCOME:

Contrary to data from the past four years, a slightly greater proportion of boys than girls fell into both the lowest and the highest income categories in 1988.

TABLE XIII
AGE, RACE, PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS, AND FAMILY INCOME BY SEX

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
AGE:						
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	6	75.0%	1.0%	2	25.0%	2.4%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	23	95.8%	3.6%	1	4.2%	1.2%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	71	81.6%	11.2%	16	18.4%	19.5%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	126	76.8%	19.9%	38	23.2%	46.3%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	226	94.2%	35.8%	14	5.8%	17.1%
16.6 +	180	94.2%	28.5%	11	5.8%	13.4%
RACE:						
WHITE	332	88.3%	52.5%	44	11.7%	53.7%
BLACK	177	87.6%	28.0%	25	12.4%	30.5%
HISPANIC	113	91.9%	17.9%	10	8.1%	12.2%
OTHER	10	76.9%	1.6%	3	23.1%	3.7%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:						
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	107	93.0%	21.1%	8	7.0%	11.9%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	250	89.3%	49.2%	30	10.7%	44.8%
NEVER MARRIED	100	80.6%	19.7%	24	19.4%	35.8%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	29	93.5%	5.7%	2	6.5%	3.0%
OTHER	22	88.0%	4.3%	3	12.0%	4.5%
FAMILY INCOME:						
\$0 - \$5,328	62	89.9%	17.2%	7	10.1%	13.5%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	37	86.0%	10.3%	6	14.0%	11.5%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	49	83.1%	13.6%	10	17.0%	19.2%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	74	87.1%	20.5%	11	12.9%	21.2%
\$17,317 +	139	88.5%	38.5%	18	11.5%	34.6%

GRAPH 9
FAMILY INCOME BY RACE
1988

PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES
IN EACH RACE CATEGORY

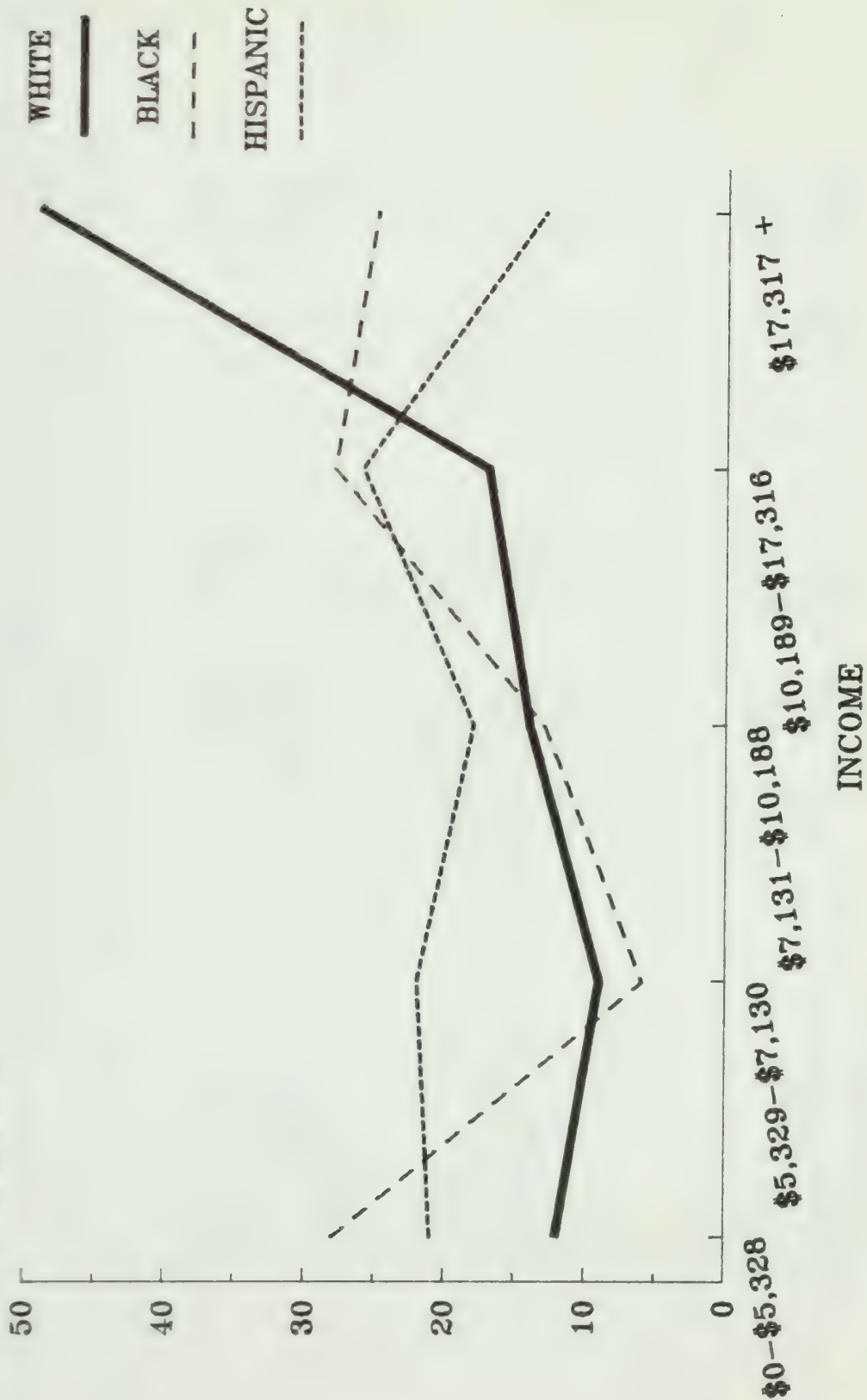


TABLE XIV - SPECIFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSE TYPES BY SEX

There was significant variation by gender in both the specific and the general types of offenses for which youths were newly committed in 1988.

An examination of the column percentages shows that, as was the case last year, males were most often committed for property offenses. This charge type accounted for 50% of the male commitments and 46% of the female commitments. While males were more likely to be committed for controlled substance offenses than females, females were more likely to be committed for motor vehicle offenses.

TABLE XIV
SPECIFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSE TYPE BY SEX, 1988

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
SPECIFIC OFFENSE:						
MURDER	2	100.0%	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	5	100.0%	0.8%	0	0.0%	0.0%
ARMED ASSAULT	53	88.3%	8.4%	7	11.7%	8.4%
UNARMED ASSAULT	49	90.7%	7.8%	5	9.3%	6.0%
ARMED ROBBERY	10	100.0%	1.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
UNARMED ROBBERY	10	90.9%	1.6%	1	9.1%	1.2%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	35	94.6%	5.5%	2	5.4%	2.4%
KIDNAPPING	2	66.7%	0.3%	1	33.3%	1.2%
THREATS, ETC.	1	33.3%	0.2%	2	66.7%	2.4%
ARSON	13	100.0%	2.1%	0	0.0%	0.0%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	114	90.5%	18.0%	12	9.5%	14.5%
LARCENY	101	81.5%	16.0%	23	18.5%	27.7%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	41	95.3%	6.5%	2	4.7%	2.4%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	38	97.4%	6.0%	1	2.6%	1.2%
SEX OFFENSES	3	60.0%	0.5%	2	40.0%	2.4%
MOTOR VEHICLE	52	78.8%	8.2%	14	21.2%	16.9%
PUBLIC ORDER	40	83.3%	6.3%	8	16.7%	9.6%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	63	96.9%	10.0%	2	3.1%	2.4%
FRAUD	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	100.0%	1.2%
OFFENSE TYPE:						
PERSON	167	90.3%	26.9%	18	9.7%	22.2%
PROPERTY	307	89.0%	49.5%	38	11.0%	46.9%
MOTOR VEHICLE	52	78.8%	8.4%	14	21.2%	17.3%
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	63	96.9%	10.2%	2	3.1%	2.5%
OTHER	31	77.5%	5.0%	9	22.5%	11.1%

*Possession of burglarious tools

TABLE XV – AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE:

The extent to which new commitments in various racial groups differed by age, family income and parents' marital status is presented in Table XV. Particularly significant are variations in family income and parents' marital status.

For white, black and Hispanic youths, the greatest percentage of new commitments were youths between the ages of 15.6 and 16.5 years. The majority of youths between the ages of 9.0 and 13.5 years were black youths. The majority of all youths in the remaining older age groups were white youths.

The majority of all white youths committed (49%) came from families with an average yearly income of more than \$17,316. Over half of the black youths committed came from families with average yearly incomes of more than \$10,189; however, 28% of the black youths committed fell into the \$0 – \$5,328 income category. Over half of the Hispanic youths committed came from families with average yearly incomes of less than \$10,188.

1988 data concerning race and parents' marital status is consistent with data from 1987. The majority of white youths and Hispanic youths committed in 1988 came from homes where the parents were divorced or separated (56% and 40%, respectively). Most of the black youths committed, however, came from homes where the parents were never married (43%).

TABLE XV
AGE, FAMILY INCOME AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

	WHITE		BLACK		HISPANIC		OTHER	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
AGE:								
9.0 – 12.5 YEARS	1	12.5% 0.3%	5	62.5% 2.5%	1	12.5% 0.8%	1	12.5% 7.7%
12.6 – 13.5 YEARS	8	33.3% 2.1%	10	41.7% 5.0%	5	20.8% 4.1%	1	4.2% 7.7%
13.6 – 14.5 YEARS	41	47.1% 10.9%	27	31.0% 13.4%	18	20.7% 14.6%	1	1.2% 7.7%
14.6 – 15.5 YEARS	82	50.0% 21.8%	52	31.7% 25.7%	28	17.1% 22.8%	2	1.2% 15.4%
15.6 – 16.5 YEARS	133	55.4% 35.4%	60	25.0% 29.7%	44	18.3% 35.8%	3	1.3% 23.1%
16.6 +	111	58.1% 29.5%	48	25.1% 23.8%	27	14.1% 22.0%	5	2.6% 38.5%
FAMILY INCOME:								
\$0 – \$5,328	30	43.5% 11.9%	22	31.9% 27.9%	15	21.7% 20.8%	2	2.9% 20.0%
\$5,329 – \$7,130	22	51.2% 8.7%	5	11.6% 6.3%	16	37.2% 22.2%	0	0.0% 0.0%
\$7,131 – \$10,188	34	57.6% 13.5%	10	16.9% 12.7%	13	22.0% 18.1%	2	3.4% 20.0%
\$10,189 – \$17,316	43	50.6% 17.1%	22	25.9% 27.9%	19	22.4% 26.4%	1	1.2% 10.0%
\$17,317 +	123	78.3% 48.8%	20	12.7% 25.3%	9	5.7% 12.5%	5	3.2% 50.0%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:								
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	81	70.4% 24.0%	14	12.2% 11.1%	18	15.7% 17.7%	2	1.7% 20.0%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	189	67.5% 56.1%	44	15.7% 34.9%	41	14.6% 40.2%	6	2.1% 60.0%
NEVER MARRIED	35	28.2% 10.4%	54	43.6% 42.9%	33	26.6% 32.4%	2	1.6% 20.0%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	19	61.3% 5.6%	4	12.9% 3.2%	8	25.8% 7.8%	0	0.0% 0.0%
OTHER	13	52.0% 3.9%	10	40.0% 7.9%	2	8.0% 2.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%

SECTION IV - HIGHLIGHTS

Data from 1988, by sex, continues a seven year trend where the proportion of newly committed youths who are male has remained fairly constant, ranging from 86 % to 89 % of all youths committed.

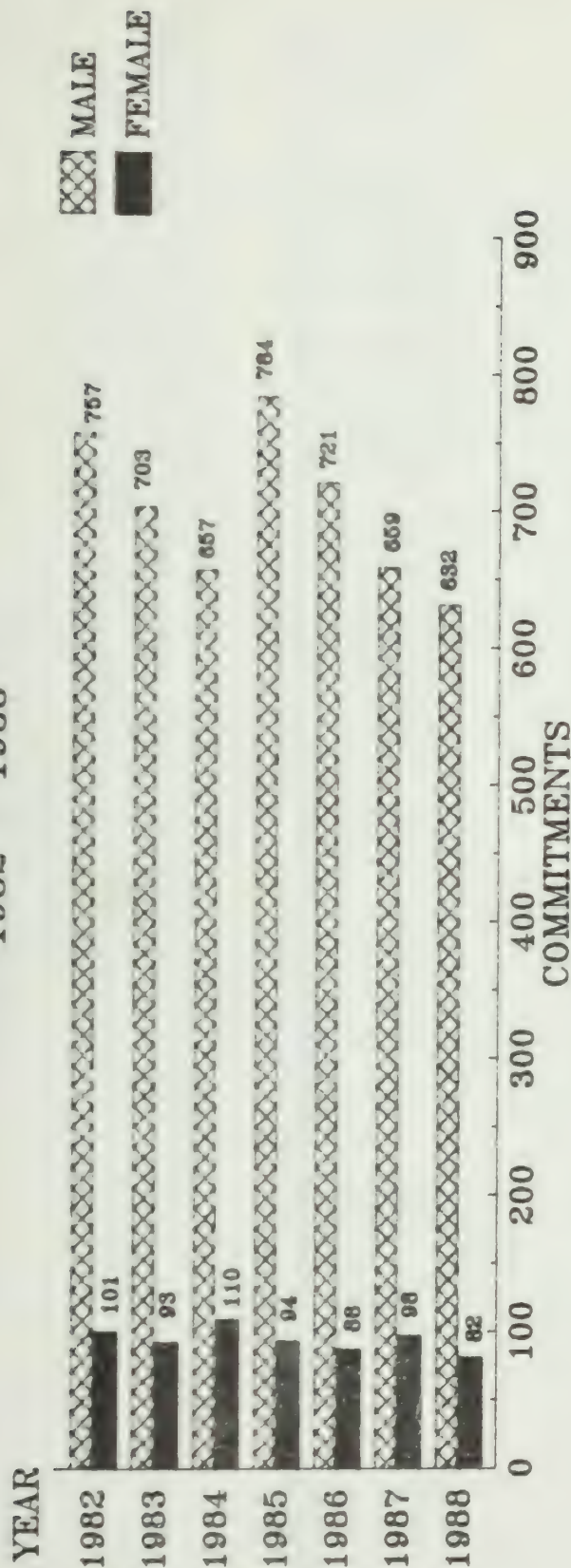
In another consistent trend, the proportion of new commitments who are white continues to drop, while the proportion of new commitments who are black or Hispanic continues to rise. In the early 1980's, over two-thirds of newly committed youths were white. This year white youths comprised just over half of all new commitments.

Regionally, new commitments continue to vary each year. This year, the Metro region again has the greatest number of new commitments, however the proportions are closer this year than they have been in the past. After a high in 1987 of 28 % of all new commitments, the Metro region this year reported 23 % of new committed.

The mean age at commitment has risen slightly from 15 years 7 months (which was the average from 1983 to 1986) to 15 years 9 months (which was the average in 1987 and 1988).

Another variable which has shown gradual change over time is the charge type for which youths are committed. In 1988, for the first time, property offenders comprised less than 50 % of all new commitments. The proportion of youths who are person offenders has also decreased slightly in recent years. The percentage of youths committed for motor vehicle offenses has increased in recent years, especially in 1988.

GRAPH 10
NEW COMMITMENTS BY SEX
1982 - 1988



NEW COMMITMENTS, 1982 - 1988
PERCENT CHANGE

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
1982	-7.2%	-10.6%	2.3%	-5.7%	-11.8%	-16.8%
1983	-	-3.6%	10.3%	1.6%	-4.9%	-10.3%
1984	-	-	14.5%	5.5%	-1.3%	-6.9%
1985	-	-	-	-7.9%	-13.8%	-18.7%
1986	-	-	-	-	-6.4%	-11.7%
1987	-	-	-	-	-	-5.7%

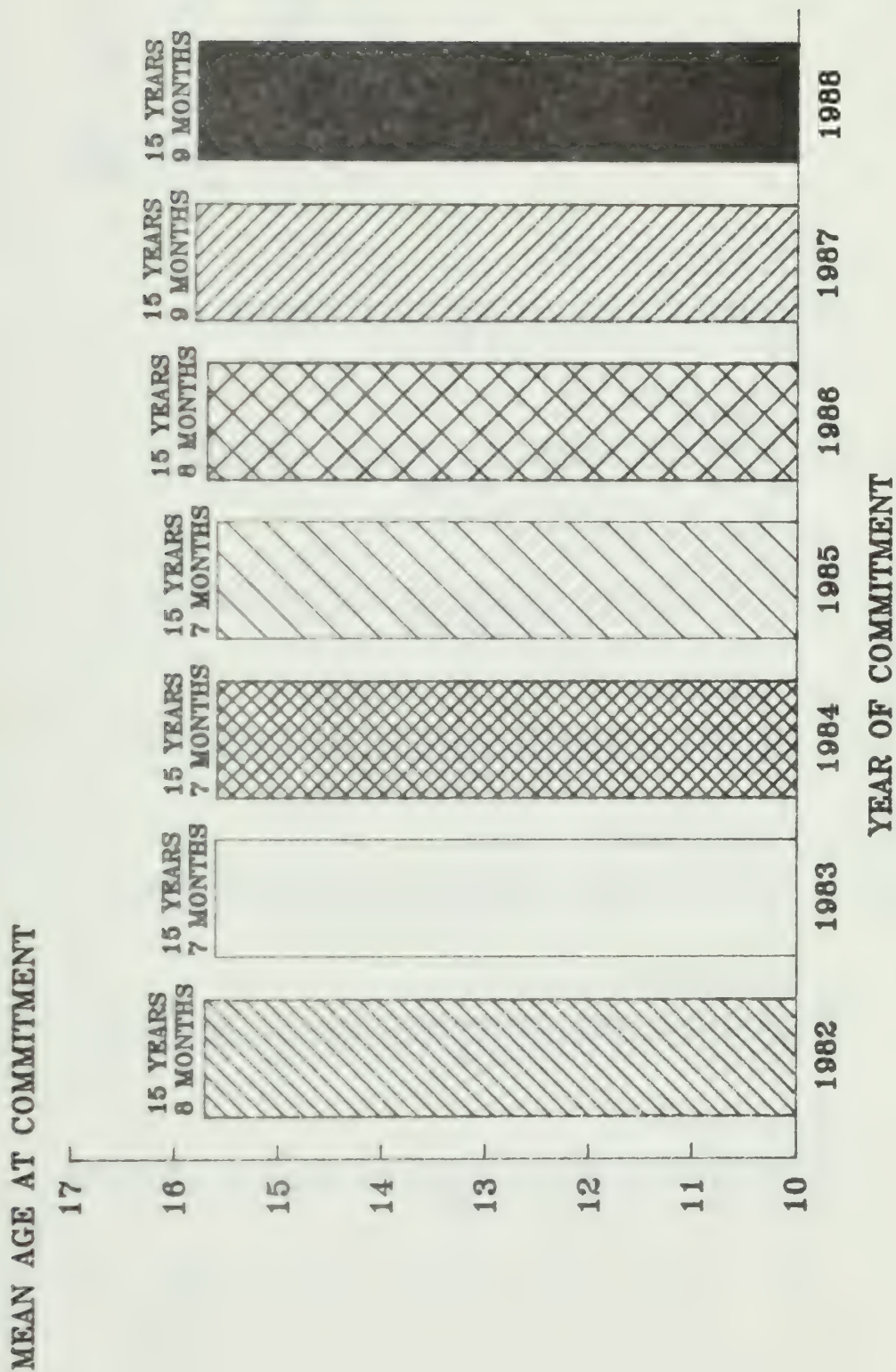
TABLE XVI
NEW COMMITMENTS BY RACE
1982 - 1988

	1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		1988	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
RACE:														
TOTAL	858	100.0%	796	100.0%	767	100.0%	878	100.0%	809	100.0%	757	100.0%	714	100.0%
WHITE	608	70.9%	554	69.6%	550	71.7%	569	64.8%	521	64.4%	427	56.4%	376	52.7%
BLACK	160	18.6%	140	17.6%	132	17.2%	193	22.0%	179	22.1%	197	26.0%	202	28.3%
HISPANIC	85	9.9%	90	11.3%	74	9.6%	108	12.3%	100	12.4%	127	16.8%	123	17.2%
OTHER	5	0.6%	12	1.5%	11	1.4%	8	0.9%	9	1.1%	6	0.8%	13	1.8%

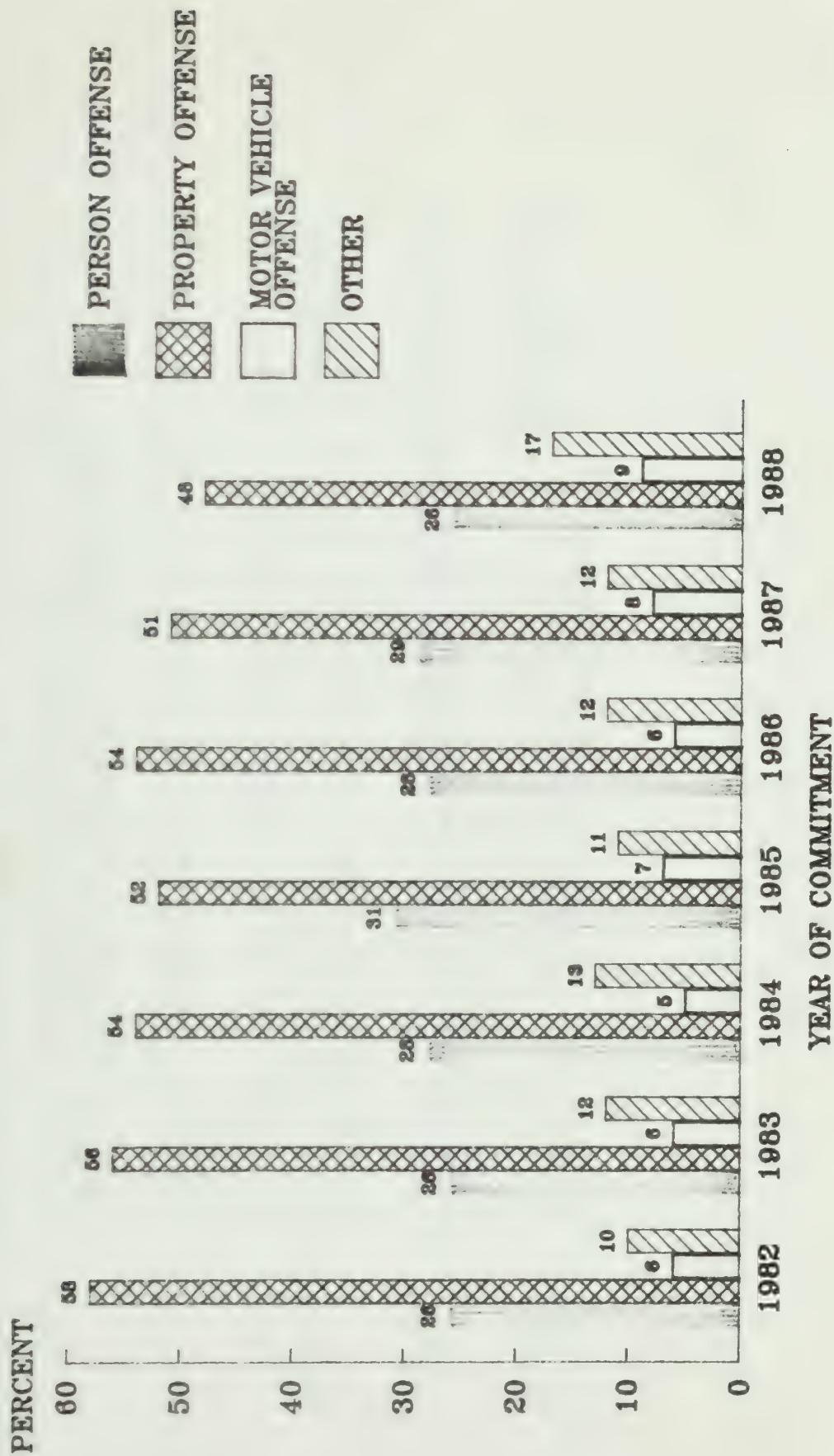
TABLE XVII
NEW COMMITMENTS BY REGION
1982 - 1988

	1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		1988	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
REGION:														
TOTAL	858	100.0%	796	100.0%	767	100.0%	878	100.0%	809	100.0%	757	100.0%	714	100.0%
WESTERN	175	20.4%	184	23.1%	136	17.7%	185	21.1%	147	18.2%	160	21.1%	159	22.3%
CENTRAL	173	20.2%	141	17.7%	166	21.6%	180	20.5%	157	19.4%	121	16.0%	131	18.3%
NORTHEAST	171	19.9%	155	19.5%	150	19.6%	186	21.2%	157	19.4%	122	16.1%	133	18.6%
SOUTHEAST	168	19.6%	161	20.2%	148	19.3%	131	14.9%	140	17.3%	146	19.3%	125	17.5%
METRO	171	19.9%	155	19.5%	167	21.8%	196	22.3%	208	25.7%	208	27.5%	166	23.2%

GRAPH 11
 MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT
 1982 - 1988



GRAPH 12
COMMITMENTS BY OFFENSE TYPE
1982 - 1988



APPENDIX A -- CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS WHOSE COMMITMENTS WERE REVISED/REVOKED

Appendix A presents the youths who were newly committed to the Department of Youth Services in 1987 and 1988 whose commitments were subsequently revised and revoked.

AGE :	The majority of youths who were revised and revoked, both in 1987 and 1988 tended to be youths at the high end of the age range. This year, most of the youths whose commitments were revised and revoked were 13.6 years of age or older.
SEX :	In 1987 and 1988 the majority of youths whose commitments were revised and revoked were male; however, proportionately more females had their commitments revoked in 1987 than did in 1988.
RACE :	Over half of the youths who were revised and revoked in both years were white.
REGION :	While the majority of youths last year who were revised and revoked were from the Central region, this year the Southeast region had the greatest number of youths whose commitments were rescinded.
OFFENSE TYPE :	In both 1987 and 1988, the majority of youths whose commitments were revised and revoked were originally committed for property offenses or some other miscellaneous offense such as a public order or weapons violation.
LENGTH OF COMMITMENT :	One fifth of the youths who were revised and revoked this year were committed for less than three weeks and another fifth were committed for more than 19 weeks. The remainder of the fourteen youths fell somewhere between these two time periods.

APPENDIX A
CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS WHOSE COMMITMENTS WERE REVISED/REVOKED
1987 - 1988

	1987		1988		CHANGE 1987 - 1988	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL YOUTHS REVISED/REVOKED	7	100.0%	14	100.0%	7	100.0%
AGE:						
0 - 12.5 YEARS	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	1	-
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	1	-
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	0	0.0%	3	21.4%	3	-
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	2	28.6%	3	21.4%	1	50.0%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	3	42.9%	3	21.4%	0	0.0%
16.6 +	2	28.6%	3	21.4%	1	50.0%
SEX:						
MALE	4	57.1%	11	78.6%	7	175.0%
FEMALE	3	42.9%	3	21.4%	0	0.0%
RACE:						
WHITE	6	85.7%	9	64.3%	3	50.0%
BLACK	1	14.3%	4	28.6%	3	300.0%
HISPANIC	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	1	-
OTHER	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	-
REGION:						
WESTERN	1	14.3%	2	14.3%	1	100.0%
CENTRAL	4	57.1%	2	14.3%	-2	-50.0%
NORTHEAST	0	0.0%	2	14.3%	2	-
SOUTHEAST	2	28.6%	6	42.9%	4	200.0%
METRO	0	0.0%	2	14.3%	2	-
OFFENSE TYPE:						
PERSON	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	-1	-100.0%
PROPERTY	3	42.9%	6	42.9%	3	100.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	1	-
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	-
OTHER	3	42.9%	7	50.0%	4	133.3%
LENGTH OF COMMITMENT						
0 - 20 DAYS	2	28.6%	3	21.4%	1	50.0%
21 - 81 DAYS	2	28.6%	4	28.6%	2	100.0%
82 - 138 DAYS	3	42.9%	4	28.6%	1	33.3%
139 - 258 DAYS	0	0.0%	3	21.4%	3	-

APPENDIX B – EXPLANATION OF MISSING DATA

In some cases, not all of the information concerning a particular youth is available at the time of intake; thus, throughout this report there are several tables presenting data which does not add up to the total number of 1988 commitments, 714. Missing data are not included in the calculation of percentages and therefore should not significantly affect the findings of this report.

Data was available regarding each of the 714 youths for the following six variables: region, sex, race, age, court and offense. The proportions of data which were missing for the remaining four variables is as follows: zip code, 25% missing; last grade completed, 16% missing; parents' marital status, 20% missing; and family income, 42% missing.

MASS. HSGO. 3 : 789

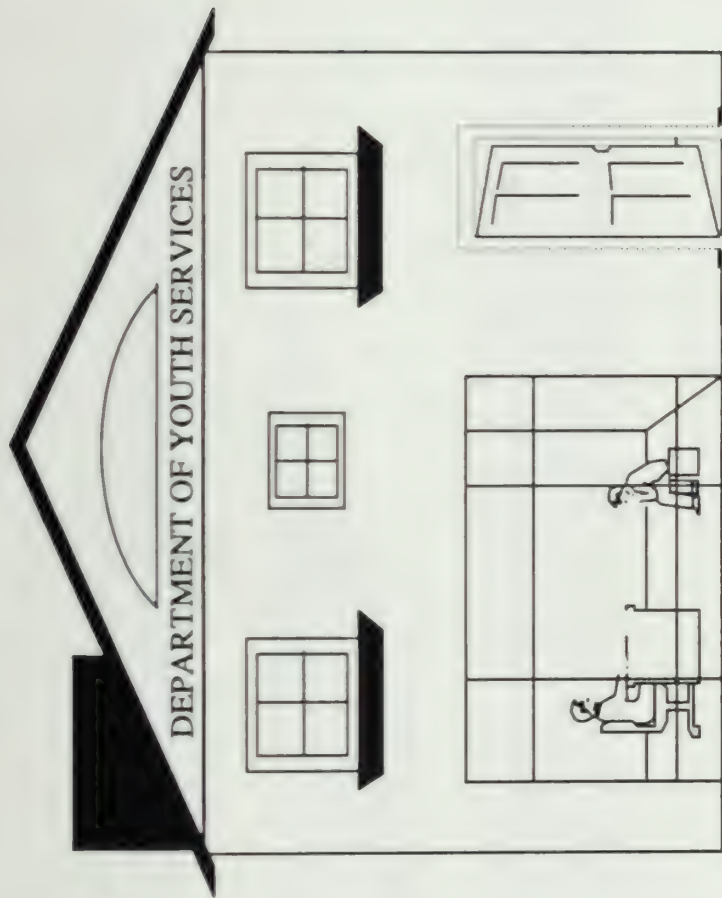
ANALYSIS OF COMMITMENT, 1989
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
EDWARD J. LOUGHRAN, COMMISSIONER

STATEMENT DOCUMENT
COLLECTION
NOV 1 1990
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
BOSTON, MASS.

NICOLE TURILLON HARRINGTON
RESEARCH ANALYST

JUNE, 1990

BUREAU OF PLANNING, RESEARCH AND SYSTEMS
LAWRENCE T. WILLIAMS, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER



In 1989, the typical new commitment was a white male, aged 15 years, 10 months. He was found delinquent by the courts for committing a burglary offense. He comes from a single parent family with an average annual income of \$10,840. He has completed the eighth grade, placing him approximately two years below grade level.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank several people, without whose efforts this report would not have been possible. The information contained in this report is based on data which is collected and entered into the system at the region level. For this, I would like to thank the following regional data entry and quality control staff:

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Southeast Region: Lynn Aldrich and Janet Gabourel

Metro Region: Alex Sales and Glenda Green

As is the case with all reports from the Bureau of Planning, Research and Systems, a great deal of work was done by systems staff during the production of this report. Special thanks are in order for Joseph Balbo and Michael Keaveny for the programming involved with both the quality control and the preparing of the data. Thanks are also in order for Beverly Saunders for the time spent in ensuring the accuracy of the information contained in this report. Finally, thanks to Louise Neary and Eileen Martin for their help in preparing the final product.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

INTRODUCTION

COMMITMENT RATES, 1982 - 1989 (TABLE)	1
ARRAIGNMENTS AND FIRST COMMITMENTS TO DYS, 1980 - 1989 (GRAPH)	2
1989 NEW COMMITMENTS AND MASSACHUSETTS AT RISK POPULATION (GRAPH)	3

SECTION I

CHANGES IN CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS, 1988 - 1989

CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS (TABLE)	5
SPECIFIC COMMITTING OFFENSE (TABLE)	6
HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS (TABLE)	7
NEW COMMITMENTS BY COURT AND REGION (TABLE)	8

SECTION II

CHARACTERISTICS OF 1989 COMMITMENTS BY REGION

RACE, SEX AND AGE BY REGION (TABLE)	9
SEX BY REGION (GRAPH)	10
RACE BY REGION (GRAPH)	10
RACE AND SEX BY REGION (TABLE)	11
AGE AND INCOME BY REGION (TABLE)	12
AGE BY REGION (GRAPH)	13
FAMILY INCOME BY REGION (GRAPH)	13
OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION (TABLE)	14
OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION (GRAPH)	15
SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION (TABLE)	16
MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION (TABLE)	17

LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION (TABLE)	18
LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION (GRAPH)	19
 SECTION III RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CLIENTS' DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS	
SEX, OFFENSE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS (TABLE)	20
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS (GRAPH)	21
AGE, RACE, AND OFFENSE TYPE BY SEX (TABLE)	22
SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY SEX (TABLE)	23
AGE, OFFENSE TYPE AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE (TABLE)	24
AGE BY RACE (GRAPH)	25
 SECTION IV DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS, 1982 - 1989	
NEW COMMITMENTS BY SEX (GRAPH)	27
NEW COMMITMENTS BY RACE (TABLE)	28
NEW COMMITMENTS BY REGION (TABLE)	28
MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT (GRAPH)	29
COMMITMENTS BY OFFENSE TYPE (GRAPH)	30
 APPENDIX	
CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS WHOSE COMMITMENTS WERE REVISED/REVOKED (TABLE)	31
EXPLANATION OF MISSING DATA	32

INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Planning, Research and Systems produces the Analysis of Commitment report annually. This report examines the diverse characteristics of youths newly committed to the Department of Youth Services in 1989. The data utilized to compile this report was obtained by the regional staff at each youth's intake and was entered into the DYS automated client tracking system. This system assists in providing on-going commitment information to the Department.

The 1989 Analysis of Commitment report is composed of four sections. Section I compares the demographics of youths committed in 1988 with those committed in 1989. Section II displays the 1989 regional variations in youth's demographic information. Section III analyzes the correlations existing between various demographic variables in 1989. Section IV summarizes information historically from 1986 to 1989. The report concludes with an appendix that presents information on youths whose commitments were revised and revoked.

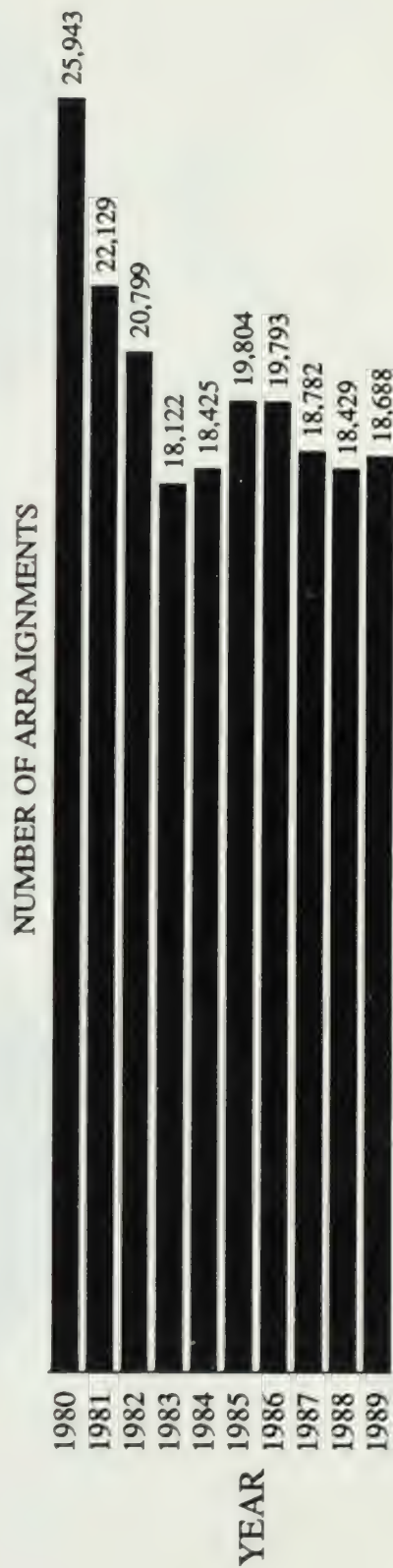
It should be noted that data in this report may not match previous issues of the Analysis of Commitment. Data has been included for the 45 youths who were committed in 1987, 1988 and 1989 whose commitments were subsequently revised and revoked. In addition, throughout the report there are several instances where the data presented does not add to 836 — the total number of youths committed in 1989. In these cases, not all of the demographic information about the youths was available at the time of intake. Missing data are not included in any calculations and therefore do not affect the percentages presented in this report. Data for all 836 youths newly committed in 1989 was available for the following variables: sex, region, race, age court and offense. The proportions of data which were missing from the remaining variables is as follows: family income 37%; last grade completed 13%; parent's marital status 14%.

TABLE I
COMMITMENT RATES, 1982 - 1989

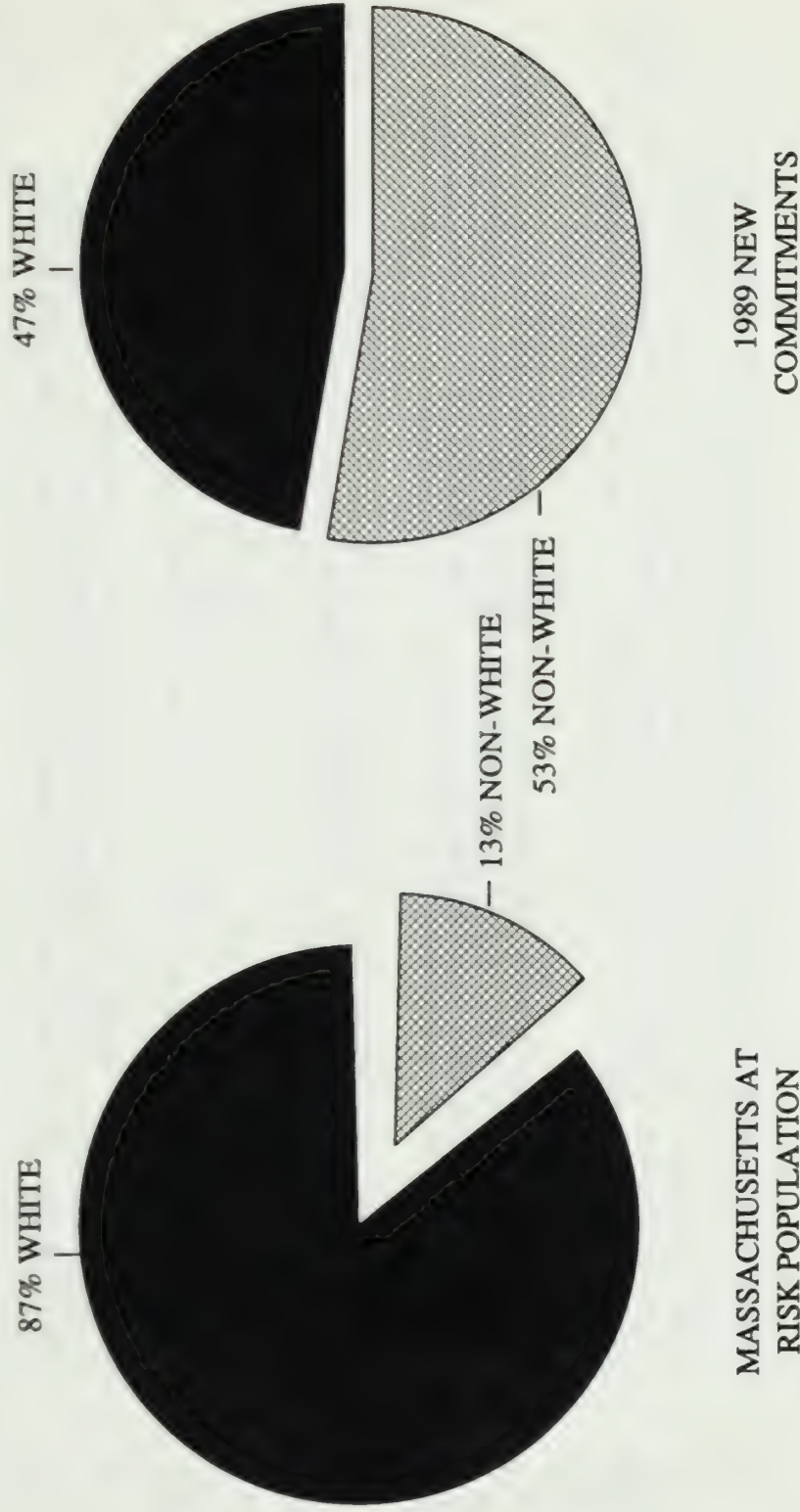
	NUMBER OF YOUTHS COMMITTED	NUMBER OF ARRAIGNMENTS	COMMITMENT RATE
1980	854	25,943	3.3 %
1981	855	22,129	3.9 %
1982	858	20,799	4.1 %
1983	796	18,122	4.4 %
1984	767	18,425	4.2 %
1985	878	19,804	4.4 %
1986	809	19,793	4.1 %
1987	757	18,782	4.0 %
1988	714	18,429	3.9 %
1989	836	18,688	4.5 %

After decreasing steadily since 1985, commitments increased significantly this year. The total number of newly committed youths increased 17.1% this year from 1988. Juvenile arraignments have also changed their downward trend. The number of juvenile arraignments has increased one percent this year as compared with 1988. The commitment rate for 1989 was 4.5%, or 44.8 commitments per thousand arraignments.

GRAPH 1
ARRAIGNMENTS AND NEW COMMITMENTS TO DYS, 1980 - 1989



GRAPH 2 **1989 NEW COMMITMENTS AND** **MASSACHUSETTS AT RISK POPULATION** **BY RACE**



* At risk population figures are 1989 projections based on 1980 census data.

SECTION I - HIGHLIGHTS

TABLE II - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS 1988 - 1989

The characteristics of adolescents who were committed in 1989 varied from those committed in 1988. Table II displays comparative demographic data for 1988 - 1989. Changes in sex, family income and especially offense are specifically significant.

AGE :	The majority of clients committed in 1989 were in the 15.6-16.5 years of age category. A significant proportion of the age categories showed increases this year. The only age group to show a decrease from 1988 to 1989 was the 13.6-14.5 years of age category.
SEX :	The proportion of male to female clients has increased this year. The number of newly committed females decreased 13% while the number of males increased 21%. In 1988 the proportion of commitments who were female was 12%. In 1989 this proportion dropped to 9%.
RACE :	While all racial categories showed increases this year, the highest increases were seen among black and Hispanic youths (27% and 34% respectively). The number of white youths committed increased 5%. This year, white youths made up less than half of all newly committed youths.
REGION :	The majority of youths newly committed in 1989 were from the Metro region. This region also showed the largest increase from 1988 to 1989 (27%). All five regions showed increases in the number of youths committed this year. The smallest increase was seen in the Northeast region (5%). The Western and Central regions saw increases of 16%, and the Southeast region reported an increase of 18%.
OFFENSE TYPE :	Property offenders continue to comprise the largest proportion of new commitments to DYS. This year half of all youths committed were property offenders. The number of youths committed for distribution of drugs increased 82% from 1988 to 1989. Possession of drug offenses, however, remained constant. The proportions of youths committed for person, property and public order offenses all rose this year, 41%, 14% and 15%, respectively. Motor vehicle offenses and weapons offenses both showed decreases this year compared to 1988, 42% and 23%, respectively.
FAMILY INCOME :	The distribution of new commitments by family income showed one-third of youths committed this year in the highest income category, \$17,317 or more. This proportion is slightly lower than it was in 1988. Nineteen percent of new commitments fell in the lowest income category, \$0 - \$5,328 annually. This group showed an increase of 42% over last year.

TABLE II
CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS
1988 - 1989

	1988		1989		CHANGE 1988-1989		CHANGE 1986-1989	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS	714	100.0%	836	100.0%	122	17.1%	34	4.6%
AGE:								
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	8	1.1%	10	1.2%	2	25.0%	3	42.9%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	24	3.4%	26	3.1%	2	8.3%	-3	-10.3%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	87	12.2%	79	9.4%	-8	-9.2%	-4	-4.8%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	164	23.0%	198	23.7%	34	20.7%	-21	-9.6%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	240	33.6%	294	35.2%	54	22.5%	16	5.8%
16.6 +	191	26.8%	229	27.4%	38	19.9%	43	23.1%
SEX:								
MALE	632	88.5%	765	91.5%	133	21.0%	50	7.0%
FEMALE	82	11.5%	71	8.5%	-11	-13.4%	-16	-18.4%
RACE:								
WHITE	376	52.7%	395	47.2%	19	5.1%	-120	-23.3%
BLACK	202	28.3%	257	30.7%	55	27.2%	78	43.6%
HISPANIC	123	17.2%	165	19.7%	42	34.1%	66	66.7%
OTHER	13	1.8%	19	2.3%	6	46.2%	10	111.1%
REGION:								
WESTERN	159	22.3%	185	22.1%	26	16.4%	38	25.9%
CENTRAL	131	18.3%	152	18.2%	21	16.0%	-4	-2.6%
NORTHEAST	133	18.6%	140	16.7%	7	5.3%	-12	-7.9%
SOUTHEAST	125	17.5%	148	17.7%	23	18.4%	9	6.5%
METRO	166	23.2%	211	25.2%	45	27.1%	3	1.4%
OFFENSE TYPE:								
PERSON	185	27.4%	261	33.0%	76	41.1%	40	18.1%
PROPERTY	345	51.2%	394	49.9%	49	14.2%	-41	-9.4%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	27	4.0%	49	6.2%	22	81.5%	35	250.0%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	38	5.6%	38	4.8%	0	0.0%	17	81.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	66	9.8%	38	4.8%	-28	-42.4%	-14	-26.9%
WEAPONS	13	1.8%	10	1.3%	-3	-23.1%	-3	-23.1%
PUBLIC ORDER	40	5.6%	46	5.5%	6	15.0%	0	0.0%
FAMILY INCOME:								
0 - \$5,328	69	16.7%	98	18.6%	29	42.0%	-9	-8.4%
\$5,329 - \$7,130	43	10.4%	50	9.5%	7	16.3%	-34	-40.5%
\$7,131 - \$10,188	59	14.3%	105	20.0%	46	78.0%	-1	-0.9%
\$10,189 - \$17,316	85	20.6%	115	21.9%	30	35.3%	-6	-5.0%
\$17,317 +	157	38.0%	158	30.0%	1	0.6%	-16	-9.2%

TABLE III - SPECIFIC COMMITTING OFFENSE

As seen in previous years, burglary and possession of burglarious tools were the most common offenses for which a youth was committed to the Department, constituting 19.4% of the total number of youths committed in 1989. Youths who had committed larceny offenses accounted for another 16.6% of the total number of 1989 commitments. Although burglary and possession of burglarious tools accounted for the greatest number of new commitments in 1989, it was also a category which exhibited a large increase between 1988 and 1989 (29%). One of the largest increases in the number of new commitments fell within armed assault offenses (57%).

TABLE III
SPECIFIC COMMITTING OFFENSE
1988 - 1989

OFFENSE	1988		1989		CHANGE 1988 - 1989		CHANGE 1986 - 1989	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
MURDER	2	0.3%	3	0.4%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	5	0.7%	3	0.4%	-2	-40.0%	5	-
ARMED ASSAULT	60	8.4%	94	11.2%	34	56.7%	18	23.7%
UNARMED ASSAULT	54	7.6%	79	9.4%	25	46.3%	19	31.7%
ARMED ROBBERY	10	1.4%	14	1.7%	4	40.0%	1	7.7%
UNARMED ROBBERY	11	1.5%	17	2.0%	6	54.5%	-9	-34.6%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	37	5.2%	38	4.5%	1	2.7%	-1	-2.6%
KIDNAPPING	3	0.4%	0	0.0%	-3	-100.0%	-1	-100.0%
THREATS, ETC.	3	0.4%	12	1.4%	9	300.0%	8	200.0%
MAYHEM	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	1	100.0%	1	100.0%
ARSON	13	1.8%	4	0.5%	-9	-69.2%	-15	-78.9%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	126	17.6%	162	19.4%	36	28.6%	-3	-1.8%
LARCENY	124	17.4%	139	16.6%	15	12.1%	-24	-14.7%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	43	6.0%	61	7.3%	18	41.9%	19	45.2%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	39	5.5%	26	3.1%	-13	-33.3%	-18	-40.9%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	27	3.8%	49	5.9%	22	81.5%	35	250.0%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	38	5.3%	38	4.5%	0	0.0%	17	81.0%
SEX OFFENSES	5	0.7%	3	0.4%	-2	-40.0%	-2	-40.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	66	9.2%	38	4.5%	-28	-42.4%	-14	-26.9%
PUBLIC ORDER	48	6.7%	53	6.3%	5	10.4%	-1	-1.9%
FRAUD	0	0.0%	2	0.2%	2	100.0%	0	0.0%

*POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS

TABLE IV - HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AREAS

In 1989 twelve courts committed at least twenty youths. Data from 1988 and 1989 for these twelve courts is presented in the table below. In 1989 Boston Juvenile Court committed the highest number of youths to DYS, showing an increase of 78% over the number of youths committed in 1988. Worcester Juvenile Court also showed a substantial increase committing 83% more youths this year. Cambridge and Brockton courts showed increases of 56% and 50% respectively. Of the twelve courts the greatest decrease was noted in Dorchester court which committed 14% fewer youths in 1989.

**TABLE IV
HIGHEST CONTRIBUTING COURTS AREAS 1988 - 1989**

COURT AREAS	1988		1989		1988 - 1989 CHANGE	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
BOSTON JUVENILE	54	7.6%	96	11.5%	42	77.8%
SPRINGFIELD JUVENILE	77	10.8%	83	9.9%	6	7.8%
LOWELL	43	6.0%	51	6.1%	8	18.6%
WORCESTER JUVENILE	24	3.4%	44	5.3%	20	83.3%
DORCHESTER	44	6.2%	38	4.5%	-6	-13.6%
LAWRENCE	25	3.5%	36	4.3%	11	44.0%
NEW BEDFORD	26	3.6%	33	3.9%	7	26.9%
ROXBURY	32	4.5%	31	3.7%	-1	-3.1%
CAMBRIDGE	18	2.5%	28	3.3%	10	55.6%
BROCKTON	18	2.5%	27	3.2%	9	50.0%
PITTSFIELD	16	2.2%	23	2.8%	7	43.8%
FALL RIVER	17	2.4%	20	2.4%	3	17.6%

TABLE V
COMMITMENTS BY REGION AND COURT, 1989

WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	%		N	%		N	%		N	%		N	%
ADAMS	2	1%	AYER	8	5%	AMESBURY	1	1%	ATTLEBORO	7	5%	BOSTON		
BERKSHIRE			CLINTON	2	1%	CAMBRIDGE	28	18%	BARNSTABLE	4	3%	JUVENILE	96	52%
COUNTY SUP.	0	0%	DUDLEY	3	2%	CONCORD	3	2%	BARNSTABLE			BOSTON		
CHICOPEE	8	4%	FITCHBURG	7	5%	ESSEX			CTY. SUP.	0	0%	MUNICIPAL	0	0%
FRANKLIN			FRAMINGHAM	13	8%	CTY. SUP.	0	0%	BRISTOL			BRIGHTON	4	2%
CTY. SUP.	0	0%	GARDNER	6	4%	GLOUCESTER	3	2%	CTY. SUP.	0	0%	CHARLESTOWN	0	0%
GREAT			LEOMINSTER	3	2%	HAVERHILL	15	10%	BROCKTON	27	20%	CHELSEA	1	1%
BARRINGTON	2	1%	LOWELL	51	33%	IPSWICH	0	0%	BROOKLINE	3	2%	DORCHESTER	38	20%
GREENFIELD	8	4%	MARLBORO	0	0%	LAWRENCE	36	24%	DEDHAM	11	8%	EAST BOSTON	4	2%
HAMPDEN			MILFORD	1	1%	LYNN	17	11%	DUKES			ROXBURY	31	17%
CTY. SUP.	0	0%	NATICK	4	3%	MALDEN	16	10%	COUNTY	0	0%	SOUTH BOSTON	6	3%
HAMPSHIRE			SPENCER	2	1%	MIDDLESEX			EDGARTOWN	0	0%	SUFFOLK		
CTY. SUP.	0	0%	UXBRIDGE	2	1%	CTY. SUP.	0	0%	FALL RIVER	20	15%	CTY. SUP.	0	0%
HOLYOKE	16	9%	WESTBORO	4	3%	NEWBURYPORT	4	3%	HINGHAM	1	1%	WEST ROXBURY	6	3%
LEE	0	0%	WINCHENDON	0	0%	PEABODY	2	1%	NANTUCKET	0	0%			
NORTH ADAMS	7	4%	WORCESTER			SALEM	10	7%	NANTUCKET					
NORTHAMPTON	14	8%	CTY. SUP.	1	1%	SOMERVILLE	6	4%	CTY. SUP.	0	0%			
ORANGE	8	4%	WORCESTER			WALTHAM	7	5%	NEW BEDFORD	33	25%			
PALMER	7	4%	DISTRICT	4	3%	WOBURN	5	3%	NEWTON	4	3%			
PITTSFIELD	23	12%	WORCESTER						NORFOLK					
SPRINGFIELD	1	1%	JUVENILE	44	28%				CTY. SUP.	0	0%			
SPRINGFIELD									ORLEANS	5	4%			
JUVENILE	83	45%							PLYMOUTH	4	3%			
WARE	1	1%							PLYMOUTH					
WESTFIELD	5	3%							CTY. SUP.	0	0%			
									QUINCY	14	11%			
									STOUGHTON	8	6%			
									TAUNTON	7	5%			
									WAREHAM	6	5%			
									WRENTHAM	3	2%			

SECTION II - HIGHLIGHTS

TABLE VI - SEX, RACE AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

The Western and Central regions committed a slightly smaller proportion of girls in 1989. About 7.5% of all new commitments in these two regions were female, as compared with between 9% and 9.5% in the other three regions.

Over half of all new commitments to the Central, Northeast and Southeast regions were white youths. The Southeast region had the highest proportion of white youths, 72%. Forty-four percent of the new commitments to the Western region and 14% of the new commitments to the Metro region were white. The Metro region had the highest proportion of black commitments (69%) and the Central region had the highest proportion of new commitments who were Hispanic (26%).

In the Western, Southeast and Metro regions, the highest proportion of new commitments fell into the 15.6-16.5 age group. The majority of youths committed to the Central region were slightly younger (14.6-15.5 years) and the majority of youths committed to the Northeast region were slightly older, falling in the over 16.6 years category.

TABLE VI
SEX, RACE, AND AGE AT COMMITMENT BY REGION

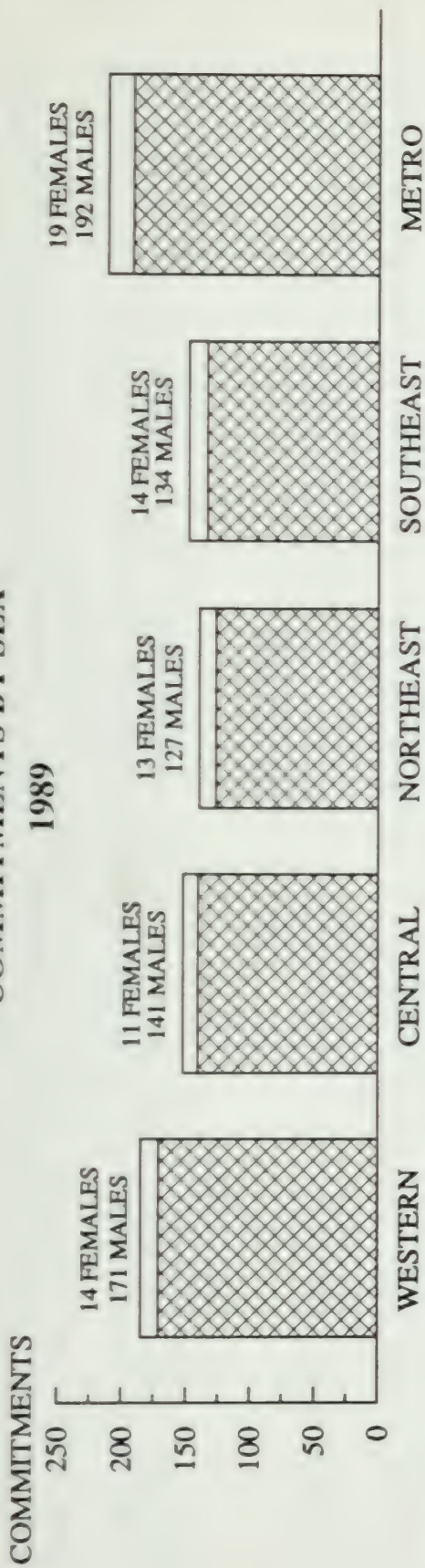
	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %	N	ROW % COL %
SEX:										
MALE	171	22.4% 92.4%	141	18.4% 92.8%	127	16.6% 90.7%	134	17.5% 90.5%	192	25.1% 91.0%
FEMALE	14	19.7% 7.6%	11	15.5% 7.2%	13	18.3% 9.3%	14	19.7% 9.5%	19	26.8% 9.0%
RACE:										
WHITE	82	20.8% 44.3%	88	22.3% 57.9%	89	22.5% 63.6%	106	26.8% 71.6%	30	7.6% 14.2%
BLACK	57	22.2% 30.8%	12	4.7% 7.9%	16	6.2% 11.4%	27	10.5% 18.2%	145	56.4% 68.7%
HISPANIC	45	27.3% 24.3%	40	24.2% 26.3%	33	20.0% 23.6%	14	8.5% 9.5%	33	20.0% 15.6%
OTHER	1	5.3% 0.5%	12	63.2% 7.9%	2	10.5% 1.4%	1	5.3% 0.7%	3	15.8% 1.4%
AGE AT COMMITMENT:										
9.0 - 12.5	3	30.0% 1.6%	3	30.0% 2.0%	1	10.0% 0.7%	0	0.0% 0.0%	3	30.0% 1.4%
12.6 - 13.5	5	19.2% 2.7%	5	19.2% 3.3%	8	30.8% 5.7%	4	15.4% 2.7%	4	15.4% 1.9%
13.6 - 14.5	23	29.1% 12.4%	17	21.5% 11.2%	10	12.7% 7.1%	17	21.5% 11.5%	12	15.2% 5.7%
14.6 - 15.5	42	21.2% 22.7%	47	23.7% 30.9%	24	12.1% 17.1%	37	18.7% 25.0%	48	24.2% 22.7%
15.6 - 16.5	64	21.8% 34.6%	45	15.3% 29.6%	47	16.0% 33.6%	58	19.7% 39.2%	80	27.2% 37.9%
16.6 + OVER	48	21.0% 26.0%	35	15.3% 23.0%	50	21.8% 35.7%	32	14.0% 21.6%	64	27.9% 30.3%

NOTE: TABLES IN THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF THIS REPORT SHOULD BE READ AS FOLLOWS:

WESTERN REGION In 1989 there were 171 males newly committed to the Western region. These males represent 22.4% of all the males committed in 1989. These 171 males also represent 92.4% of all new commitments in the Western region.

SEX: MALE

GRAPH 3
COMMITMENTS BY SEX



GRAPH 4
COMMITMENTS BY RACE

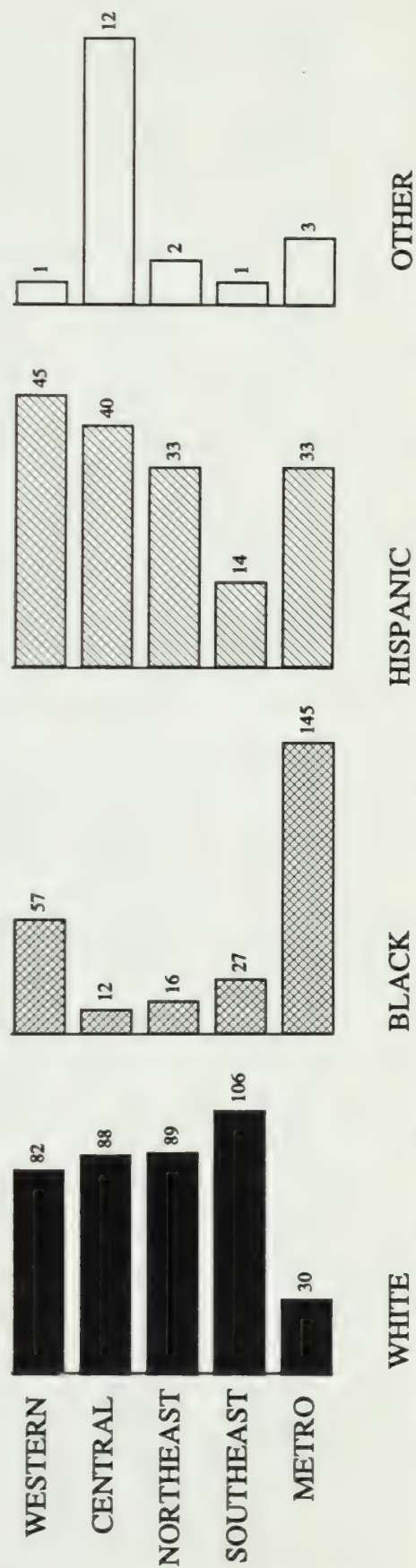


TABLE VII - RACE AND SEX BY REGION

The highest proportion of white males newly committed to the department in 1989 (27%) were committed to the Southeast region. Over half of all newly committed black males were received by the Metro region. Hispanic males were most frequently committed to the Western region in 1989 — (29%), as was the case last year.

This year the greatest proportion (26%) of white females were committed to the Northeast region. The Metro region had the highest proportion of newly committed black females (54%) and the Western region had the most Hispanic female commitments — (38%) in 1989.

**TABLE VII
RACE AND SEX BY REGION**

	WESTERN			CENTRAL			NORTHEAST			SOUTHEAST			METRO		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
WHITE:															
MALE	78	21.7%	42.2%	79	21.9%	52.0%	79	21.9%	56.4%	97	26.9%	65.5%	27	7.5%	12.8%
FEMALE	4	11.4%	2.2%	9	25.7%	5.9%	10	28.6%	7.1%	9	25.7%	6.1%	3	8.6%	1.4%
BLACK:															
MALE	50	21.8%	27.0%	12	5.2%	7.9%	14	6.1%	10.0%	23	10.0%	15.5%	130	56.8%	61.6%
FEMALE	7	25.0%	3.8%	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	7.1%	1.4%	4	14.3%	2.7%	15	53.6%	7.1%
HISPANIC:															
MALE	42	26.8%	22.7%	38	24.2%	25.0%	32	20.4%	22.9%	13	8.3%	8.8%	32	20.4%	15.2%
FEMALE	3	37.5%	1.6%	2	25.0%	1.3%	1	12.5%	0.7%	1	12.5%	0.7%	1	12.5%	0.5%
OTHER:															
MALE	1	5.3%	0.5%	12	63.2%	7.9%	2	10.5%	1.4%	1	5.3%	0.7%	3	15.8%	1.4%
FEMALE	0	-	0.0%	0	-	0.0%	0	-	0.0%	0	-	0.0%	0	-	0.0%

TABLE VIII - AGE AND INCOME BY REGION

Client age continues to vary slightly by region. There continues to be a significant amount of disparity between the regions in terms of gross family income. Table VII presents regional comparisons of client age and family income. "Average" age and income are represented by the mean and median. The highest and lowest cases are also included for each region.

In calculating the average age, the mean is the more commonly reported statistic. The statewide average age of newly committed youths in 1989 was 15.8 years (15 years, 10 months). In the Metro and Northeast regions the average age at commitment was slightly higher, while in the Western and Central regions the average age at commitment was slightly lower. The youngest youth committed this year was committed to the Western region and was 10.6 years old (10 years, 7 months). The oldest youth committed was committed to the Metro region and was 17.99 years old (17 years, 11 months).

Due to the broad range of reported family incomes, the median is the most commonly utilized statistic. Statewide, the average family income was \$10,840. The highest median gross family income was found in the Southeast region (\$17,508). The lowest median income was reported in the Metro region (\$5,000). In 1989, the highest gross family income was reported in the Northeast region with one youth's family earning over \$100,000 annually.

**TABLE VIII
AGE AND INCOME BY REGION**

	WESTERN	CENTRAL	NORTHEAST	SOUTHEAST	METRO	STATEWIDE AVERAGE
AGE:						
MEAN AGE	15.7	15.6	15.9	15.8	15.9	15.8
MEDIAN AGE	15.9	15.7	16.2	15.8	16.1	16.0
LOWEST AGE	10.6	11.7	12.1	12.6	11.4	10.6
HIGHEST AGE	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.9	17.9	17.9
INCOME:						
MEAN INCOME	\$11,046	\$18,409	\$16,788	\$20,108	\$7,473	\$14,907
MEDIAN INCOME	\$8,856	\$13,644	\$12,000	\$17,508	\$5,000	\$10,840
LOWEST INCOME	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,336	\$12	\$0
HIGHEST INCOME	\$48,812	\$93,336	\$99,999 +	\$50,000	\$85,800	\$99,999 +

GRAPH 5
AGE BY REGION



GRAPH 6
FAMILY INCOME BY REGION

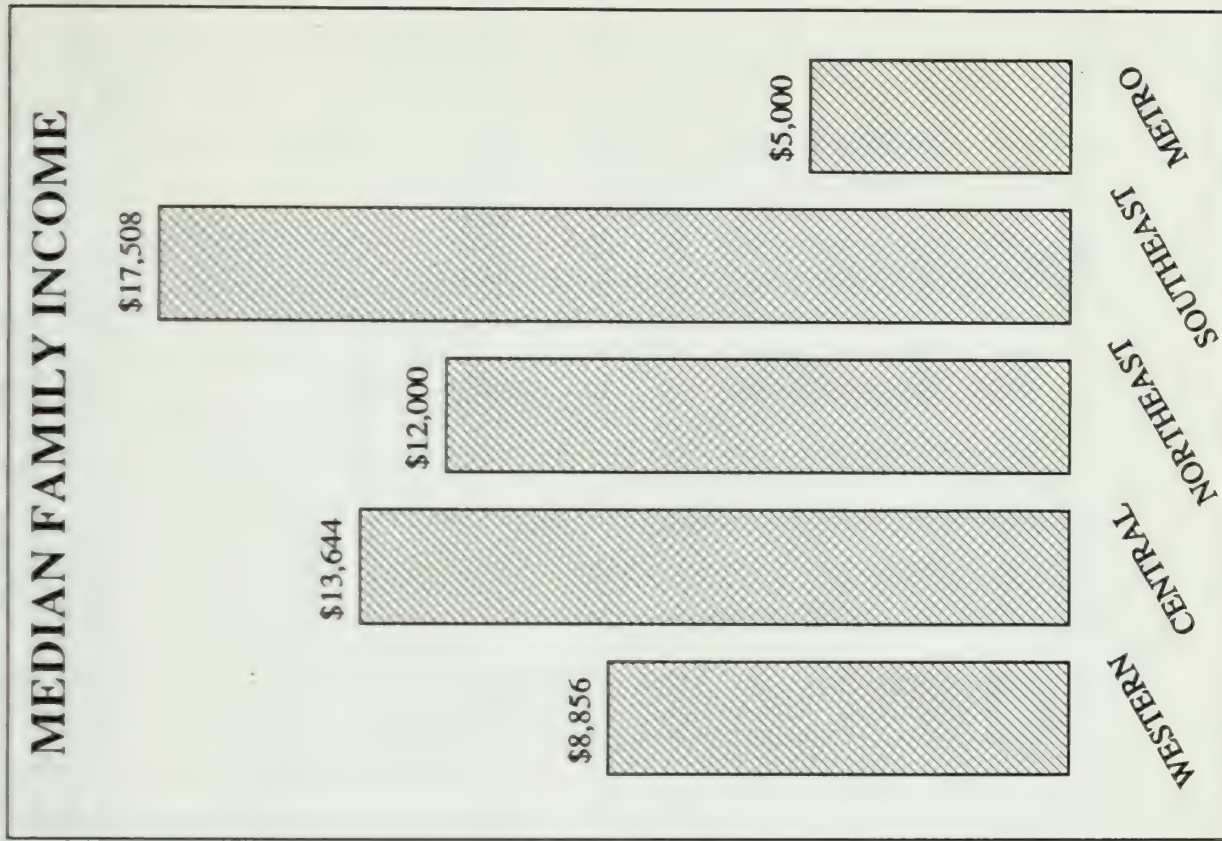


TABLE IX - OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

Regional variations in commitments by offense varied significantly in 1989. This year, the proportion of youths committed who were person offenders was higher in the Metro region as compared with other regions. This region also reported proportionately fewer property offenders than any other region. The Metro and Western regions reported the highest proportion of youths who were committed for both distribution of drugs and possession of drug offenses. In all regions except for Metro the most frequent commitment offense was a property offense.

**TABLE IX
OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION**

	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
OFFENSE TYPE:										
AGAINST PERSON	47	18.0% 25.4%	44	16.9% 28.9%	43	16.5% 30.7%	48	18.4% 32.4%	79	30.3% 37.4%
AGAINST PROPERTY	98	24.9% 53.0%	83	21.1% 54.6%	61	15.5% 43.6%	78	19.8% 52.7%	74	18.8% 35.1%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	15	30.6% 8.1%	4	8.2% 2.6%	8	16.3% 5.7%	4	8.2% 2.7%	18	36.7% 8.5%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	12	31.6% 6.5%	1	2.6% 0.7%	4	10.5% 2.9%	4	10.5% 2.7%	17	44.7% 8.1%
MOTOR VEHICLE	8	21.1% 4.3%	7	18.4% 4.6%	12	31.6% 8.6%	7	18.4% 4.7%	4	10.5% 1.9%
WEAPONS OFFENSE	1	10.0% 0.5%	1	10.0% 0.7%	1	10.0% 0.7%	0	0.0% 0.0%	7	70.0% 3.3%
PUBLIC ORDER	4	8.7% 2.2%	12	26.1% 7.9%	11	23.9% 7.9%	7	15.2% 4.7%	12	26.1% 5.7%

GRAPH 7
OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION
1989

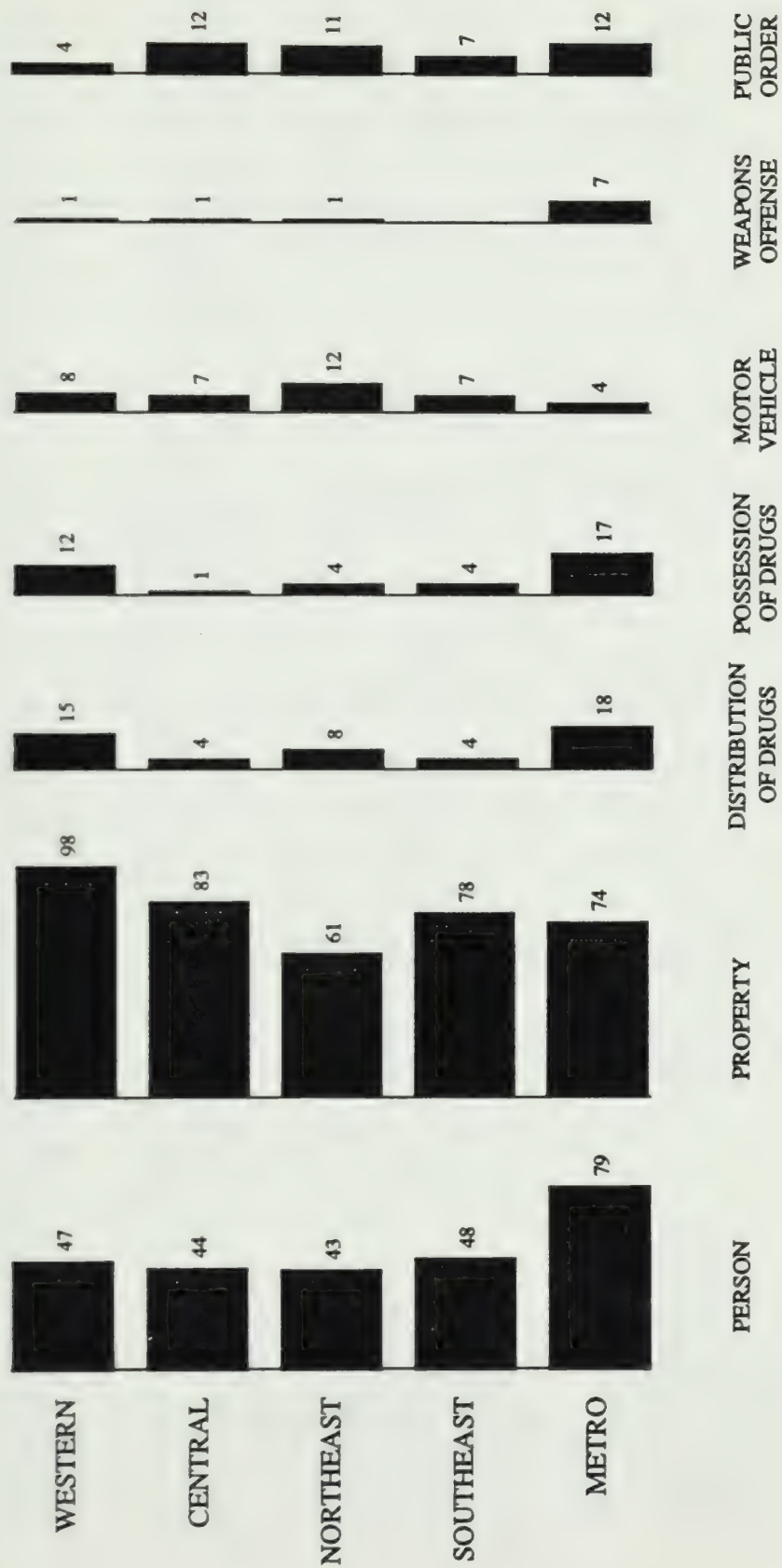


TABLE X - SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION

Among the five regions there is a fair amount of variety in the specific offenses for which youths were committed. Statewide, the most frequent commitment charges are burglary and larceny. This fact is mimicked in every other region except for the Metro region, where the two most common commitment charges were controlled substance offenses and armed assault.

Comparing row percentages for categories of offenses against the person with five or more youths in them, the Metro region showed a disproportionate number of youths committed for armed assault offenses. The Western region reported the highest proportion of unarmed assault offenses, and the Central region showed the highest proportion of sexual assaults.

Comparing row percentages for categories of non-person offenses, the Southeast reported the highest proportion of burglary offenses and the Central region accounted for the largest proportion of larceny offenses. The Northeast region reported the greatest proportion of youths committed for motor vehicle offenses. The Metro region had the highest proportions of youths committed for public order offenses and controlled substance offenses.

**TABLE X
SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION**

OFFENSE	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
MURDER	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	66.7%
ARMED ASSAULT	12	12.8%	16	17.0%	16	17.0%	16	17.0%	34	36.2%
UNARMED ASSAULT	20	25.3%	11	13.9%	17	21.5%	13	16.5%	18	22.8%
ARMED ROBBERY	2	14.3%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	3	21.4%	8	57.1%
UNARMED ROBBERY	1	5.9%	2	11.8%	2	11.8%	6	35.3%	6	35.3%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	6	15.8%	11	28.9%	6	15.8%	10	26.3%	5	13.2%
KIDNAPPING	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
THREATS, ETC.	5	41.7%	4	57.1%	1	8.3%	0	0.0%	2	16.7%
MAYHEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
ARSON	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	1	25.0%	2	50.0%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	42	25.9%	28	17.3%	24	14.8%	46	28.4%	22	13.6%
LARCENY	29	20.9%	35	25.2%	23	16.5%	25	18.0%	27	19.4%
REC. STOLEN PROPERTY	17	27.9%	11	18.0%	10	16.4%	5	8.2%	18	29.5%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	9	34.6%	8	30.8%	3	11.5%	1	3.8%	5	19.2%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	15	30.6%	4	8.2%	8	16.3%	4	8.2%	18	36.7%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	12	31.6%	1	2.6%	4	10.5%	4	10.5%	17	44.7%
SEX OFFENSES	1	33.3%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	8	21.1%	7	18.4%	12	31.6%	7	18.4%	4	10.5%
PUBLIC ORDER	4	7.5%	12	22.6%	12	22.6%	6	11.3%	19	35.8%
FRAUD	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

*POSSESSION OF BURGLARIOUS TOOLS

TABLE XI - MONTH OF COMMITMENT BY REGION

The number of youths committed to each region monthly continues to vary slightly throughout the year.

TABLE XI

1989

MONTH OF COMMITMENT	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO		TOTAL	
	N	COL %	N	COL %	N	COL %	N	COL %	N	COL %	N	COL %
TOTAL	185	100.0%	152	100.0%	140	100.0%	148	100.0%	211	100.0%	836	100.0%
JANUARY	16	8.6%	15	9.9%	16	11.4%	20	13.5%	18	8.5%	85	10.2%
FEBRUARY	19	10.3%	13	8.6%	8	5.7%	11	7.4%	22	10.4%	73	8.7%
MARCH	11	5.9%	20	13.2%	12	8.6%	15	10.1%	22	10.4%	80	9.6%
1ST QUARTER	46	24.9%	48	31.6%	36	25.7%	46	31.1%	62	29.4%	238	28.5%
APRIL	14	7.6%	17	11.2%	9	6.4%	7	4.7%	17	8.1%	64	7.7%
MAY	15	8.1%	10	6.6%	13	9.3%	14	9.5%	23	10.9%	75	9.0%
JUNE	19	10.3%	9	5.9%	14	10.0%	22	14.9%	21	10.0%	85	10.2%
2ND QUARTER	48	25.9%	36	23.7%	36	25.7%	43	29.1%	61	28.9%	224	26.8%
JULY	15	8.1%	6	3.9%	8	5.7%	9	6.1%	7	3.3%	45	5.4%
AUGUST	13	7.0%	16	10.5%	4	2.9%	8	5.4%	8	3.8%	49	5.9%
SEPTEMBER	10	5.4%	14	9.2%	12	8.6%	17	11.5%	22	10.4%	75	9.0%
3RD QUARTER	38	20.5%	36	23.7%	24	17.1%	34	23.0%	37	17.5%	169	20.2%
OCTOBER	15	8.1%	14	9.2%	17	12.1%	14	9.5%	18	8.5%	78	9.3%
NOVEMBER	21	11.4%	7	4.6%	16	11.4%	6	4.1%	25	11.8%	75	9.0%
DECEMBER	17	9.2%	11	7.2%	11	7.9%	5	3.4%	8	3.8%	52	6.2%
4TH QUARTER	53	28.6%	32	21.1%	44	31.4%	25	16.9%	51	24.2%	205	24.5%

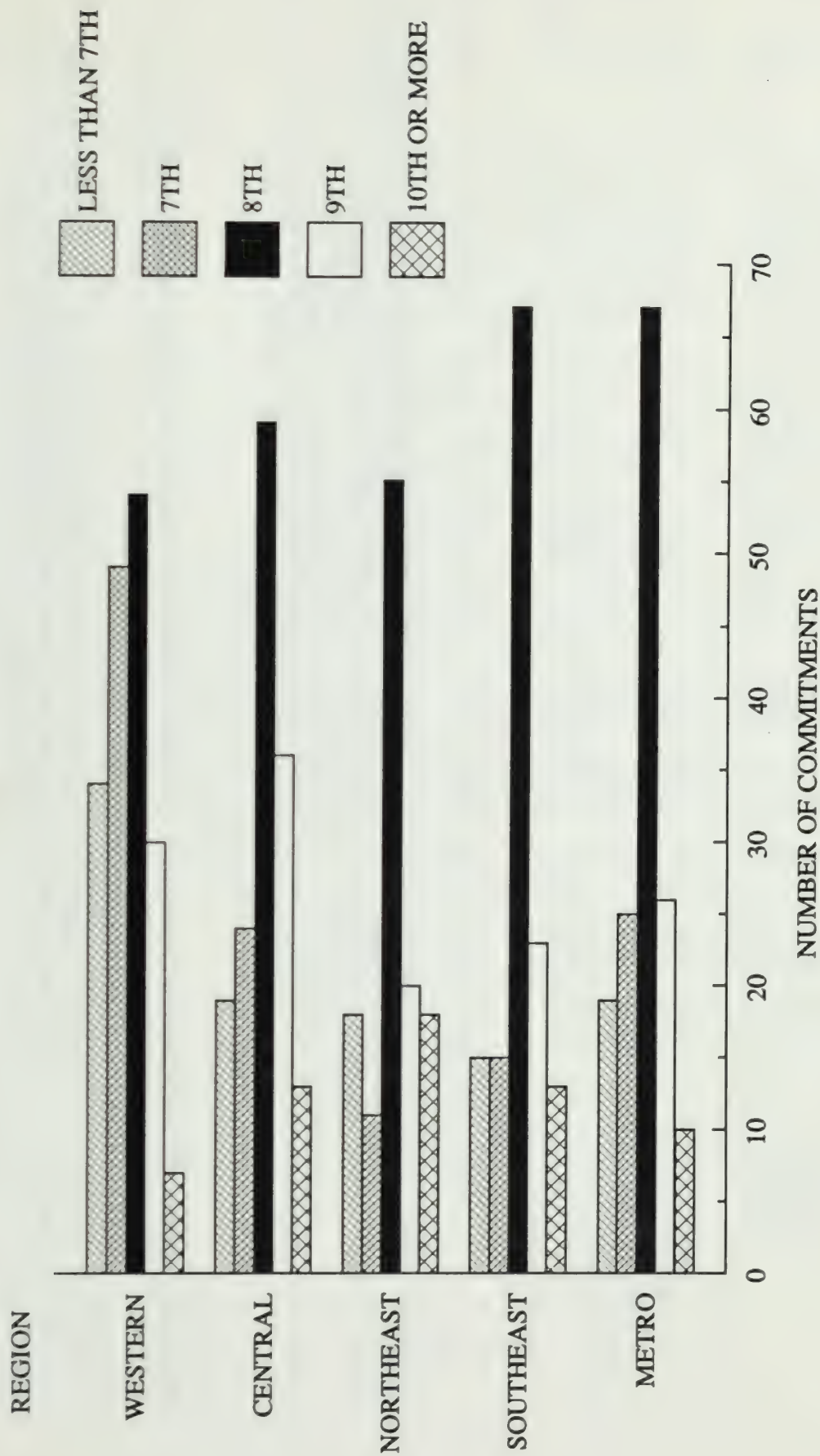
TABLE XII - LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

Statewide, 73% of all new commitments this year had completed less than the ninth grade upon their commitment. With the exception of the Southeast region, less than a third of the newly committed youths in each region had completed a grade higher than the eighth. Again this year the Metro region had more newly committed youths who had finished less than the ninth grade (84%). The Southeast region had 56% of its newly committed youths fall into this category, a figure which mimics data from last year. Only 8% of all new commitments had completed a grade higher than the 9th. Differences in the last grade completed by region were significant in 1989.

TABLE XII
LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION

	WESTERN		CENTRAL		NORTHEAST		SOUTHEAST		METRO	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
LAST GRADE COMPLETED:										
TOTAL	174	23.9% 100%	151	20.8% 100%	122	16.8% 100%	133	18.3% 100%	147	20.2% 100%
4TH OR LESS	1	25.0% 1.3%	0	0.0% 0.0%	8	62.5% 4.5%	0	0.0% 0.0%	1	12.5% 1.0%
5TH	7	14.3% 1.3%	2	7.1% 0.8%	2	21.4% 2.7%	2	0.0% 0.0%	5	57.1% 8.0%
6TH	26	26.8% 10.1%	17	14.3% 6.2%	8	14.3% 7.1%	13	16.1% 8.4%	13	28.6% 16.0%
7TH	49	27.5% 22.1%	24	27.5% 25.6%	11	14.2% 15.2%	15	14.2% 15.9%	25	16.7% 20.0%
8TH	54	24.2% 36.2%	59	22.0% 38.0%	55	20.2% 40.2%	67	15.2% 31.8%	67	18.4% 41.0%
9TH	30	23.9% 21.5%	36	21.6% 22.5%	20	18.7% 22.3%	23	27.6% 34.6%	26	8.2% 11.0%
10TH	7	26.8% 7.4%	11	22.0% 7.0%	11	22.0% 8.0%	11	22.0% 8.4%	7	7.3% 3.0%
11TH OR MORE	0	0.0% 0.0%	2	0.0% 0.0%	7	0.0% 0.0%	2	100.0% 0.9%	3	0.0% 0.0%

GRAPH 8
LAST GRADE COMPLETED BY REGION
1989



SECTION III - HIGHLIGHTS

TABLE XIII - SEX, OFFENSE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS

Half of the youths committed to the department in 1989 came from homes where the parents were divorced or separated, continuing a six year trend. Another quarter came from homes where the parents were never married. These proportions were the same for males and females.

The offense distribution for each marital status category can be determined by examining column percentages for categories of offense type. In 1989, youths whose parents were never married or youths for whom one or both parents were deceased were more likely to be person offenders than were youths from intact homes or youths whose parents were divorced or separated.

The Northeast and Southeast regions had the highest proportions of new commitments who came from homes where the parents were married and living together (about 24%). The Metro region had the fewest new commitments from intact families (8%).

**TABLE XIII
SEX, OFFENSE TYPE AND REGION BY PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS**

	MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER		DIVORCED OR SEPARATED		NEVER MARRIED		ONE OR BOTH DECEASED		OTHER	
	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%	N	ROW% COL%
TOTAL	116	16.1% 100.0%	367	51.0% 100.0%	173	24.1% 100.0%	50	7.0% 100.0%	13	1.8% 100.0%
SEX:										
MALE	107	16.2% 92.2%	336	50.8% 91.6%	159	24.0% 91.9%	48	7.3% 96.0%	12	1.8% 92.3%
FEMALE	9	15.8% 7.8%	31	54.4% 8.4%	14	24.6% 8.1%	2	3.5% 4.0%	1	1.8% 7.7%
OFFENSE TYPE:										
PERSON	34	15.4% 29.3%	109	49.3% 29.7%	55	24.9% 31.8%	20	9.0% 40.0%	3	1.6% 23.1%
PROPERTY	60	17.1% 51.7%	188	53.6% 51.2%	75	21.4% 43.4%	23	6.6% 46.0%	5	1.7% 38.5%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	1	2.4% 0.9%	21	51.2% 5.7%	17	41.5% 9.8%	1	2.4% 2.0%	1	2.5% 7.7%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	3	10.3% 2.6%	13	44.8% 3.5%	9	31.0% 5.2%	2	6.9% 4.0%	2	7.7% 15.4%
MOTOR VEHICLE	11	32.4% 9.5%	14	41.2% 3.8%	6	17.6% 3.5%	2	5.9% 4.0%	1	4.3% 7.7%
WEAPONS OFFENSE	0	0.0% 0.0%	2	33.3% 0.5%	3	50.0% 1.7%	1	16.7% 2.0%	0	0.0% 0.0%
PUBLIC ORDER	7	18.9% 6.0%	20	54.1% 5.4%	8	21.6% 4.6%	1	2.7% 2.0%	1	3.3% 7.7%
REGION:										
WESTERN	26	14.3% 22.4%	108	59.3% 29.4%	37	20.3% 21.4%	10	5.5% 20.0%	1	0.6% 7.7%
CENTRAL	34	23.3% 29.3%	72	49.3% 19.6%	27	18.5% 15.6%	11	7.5% 22.0%	2	1.4% 15.4%
NORTHEAST	13	10.3% 11.2%	69	54.8% 18.8%	30	23.8% 17.3%	11	8.7% 22.0%	3	2.4% 23.1%
SOUTHEAST	32	24.1% 27.6%	60	45.1% 16.3%	34	25.6% 19.7%	5	3.8% 10.0%	2	1.5% 15.4%
METRO	11	8.3% 9.5%	58	43.9% 15.8%	45	34.1% 26.0%	13	9.8% 26.0%	5	3.8% 38.5%

GRAPH 9
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS
1989

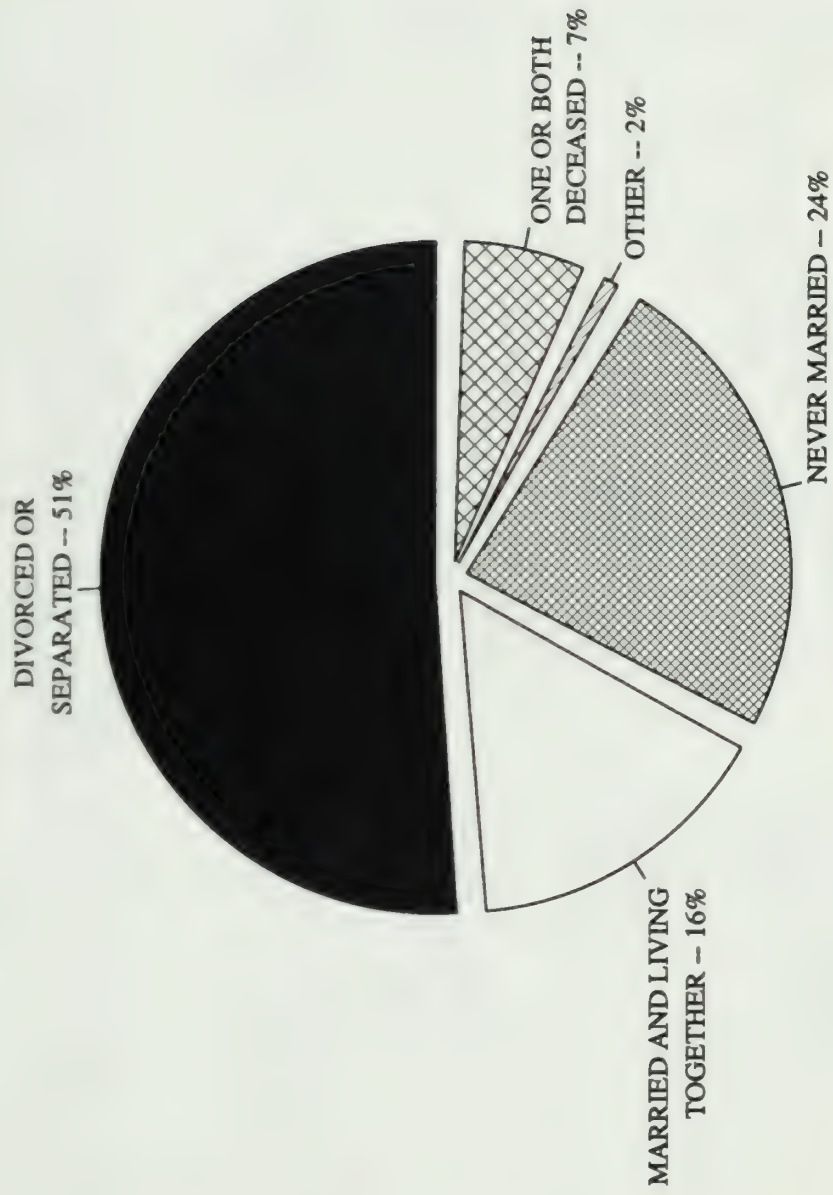


TABLE XIV - AGE, RACE AND OFFENSE BY SEX

Characteristics of newly committed youths continue to vary by sex.

AGE: While girls continue to be committed at a slightly younger age than boys, the differences between male and female commitments, in terms of age, have decreased this year. This year, the majority of new commitments, both male and female, this year were between 15.6 and 16.5 years of age.

RACE: This year a greater proportion of female commitments were black and a greater proportion of male commitments were Hispanic. Almost half of all youths committed, male and female, were white.

OFFENSE TYPE: While 33% of all males were committed this year for person offenses, among females this figure jumped to 40%. Girls were also more frequently committed for public order offenses (25%) than were boys (4%). Only males were committed this year for possession of drug offenses or weapons offenses.

**TABLE XIV
AGE, RACE AND OFFENSE BY SEX**

	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
AGE:						
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	9	90.0%	1.2%	1	10.0%	1.4%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	26	100.0%	3.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	69	87.3%	9.0%	10	12.7%	14.1%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	179	90.4%	23.4%	19	9.6%	26.8%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	270	91.8%	35.3%	24	8.2%	33.8%
16.6 +	212	92.6%	27.7%	17	7.4%	23.9%
RACE:						
WHITE	360	91.1%	47.1%	35	8.9%	49.3%
BLACK	229	89.1%	29.9%	28	10.9%	39.4%
HISPANIC	157	95.2%	20.5%	8	4.9%	11.3%
OTHER	19	100.0%	2.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%
OFFENSE TYPE						
PERSON	238	91.2%	32.9%	23	8.8%	40.4%
PROPERTY	368	93.4%	50.9%	26	6.6%	45.6%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	45	91.8%	6.2%	4	8.2%	7.0%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	38	100.0%	5.3%	0	0.0%	0.0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	34	89.5%	4.7%	4	10.5%	7.0%
WEAPONS OFFENSE	10	100.0%	1.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
PUBLIC ORDER	32	69.6%	4.4%	14	30.4%	24.6%

TABLE XV - SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY SEX

The specific offenses for which youths are committed continues to vary by sex. An examination of the column percentages shows that while 21 % of the males were committed for burglary or possessions of burglarious tools, for females this figures drops to 6%. Conversely, one-quarter of the girls were committed this year for larceny offenses, as compared with 16 % of the boys. Girls were also more frequently committed for public order offenses and unarmed assault, while boys were more frequently committed for possession of drugs and armed assault.

TABLE XV
SPECIFIC OFFENSE TYPE BY SEX, 1989

SPECIFIC OFFENSE:	MALE			FEMALE		
	N	ROW %	COL %	N	ROW %	COL %
MURDER	3	100.0%	0.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%
MANSLAUGHTER	1	33.3%	0.1%	2	66.7%	2.8%
ARMED ASSAULT	87	92.6%	11.4%	7	7.4%	9.9%
UNARMED ASSAULT	67	84.8%	8.8%	12	15.2%	16.9%
ARMED ROBBERY	14	100.0%	1.8%	0	0.0%	0.0%
UNARMED ROBBERY	15	88.2%	2.0%	2	11.8%	2.8%
SEXUAL ASSAULT	38	100.0%	5.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
KIDNAPPING	0	-	0.0%	0	-	0.0%
THREATS, ETC.	12	100.0%	1.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
MAYHEM	1	100.0%	0.1%	0	0.0%	0.0%
ARSON	4	100.0%	0.5%	0	0.0%	0.0%
BURGLARY AND PBT*	158	97.5%	20.7%	4	2.5%	5.6%
LARCENY	121	87.1%	15.8%	18	12.9%	25.4%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY	59	96.7%	7.7%	2	3.3%	2.8%
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	25	96.2%	3.3%	1	3.8%	1.4%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	45	91.8%	5.9%	4	8.2%	5.6%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	38	100.0%	5.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
SEX OFFENSES	2	66.7%	0.3%	1	33.3%	1.4%
MOTOR VEHICLE	34	89.5%	4.4%	4	10.5%	5.6%
PUBLIC ORDER	40	75.5%	5.2%	13	24.5%	18.3%
FRAUD	1	50.0%	0.1%	1	50.0%	1.4%

*Possession of burglarious tools

TABLE XVI - AGE, OFFENSE TYPE AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

Table XV presents variations in age, offense type and parents' marital status by race. Differences in offense type by race and in parents' marital status by race are particularly significant.

For youths in all racial categories, the greatest percentage of new commitments were 15.6-16.5 years of age. Hispanic youths tended to be slightly younger at the time of commitment. The youngest youths committed to the Department were most often white youths.

The majority of white and Hispanic youths committed to the Department were committed for property offenses (60% and 53%, respectively). Black youths were most frequently committed for person offenses. Additionally, only 1% of white youths committed were committed for distribution of drug offenses. This compares with 11% for both black and Hispanic youths.

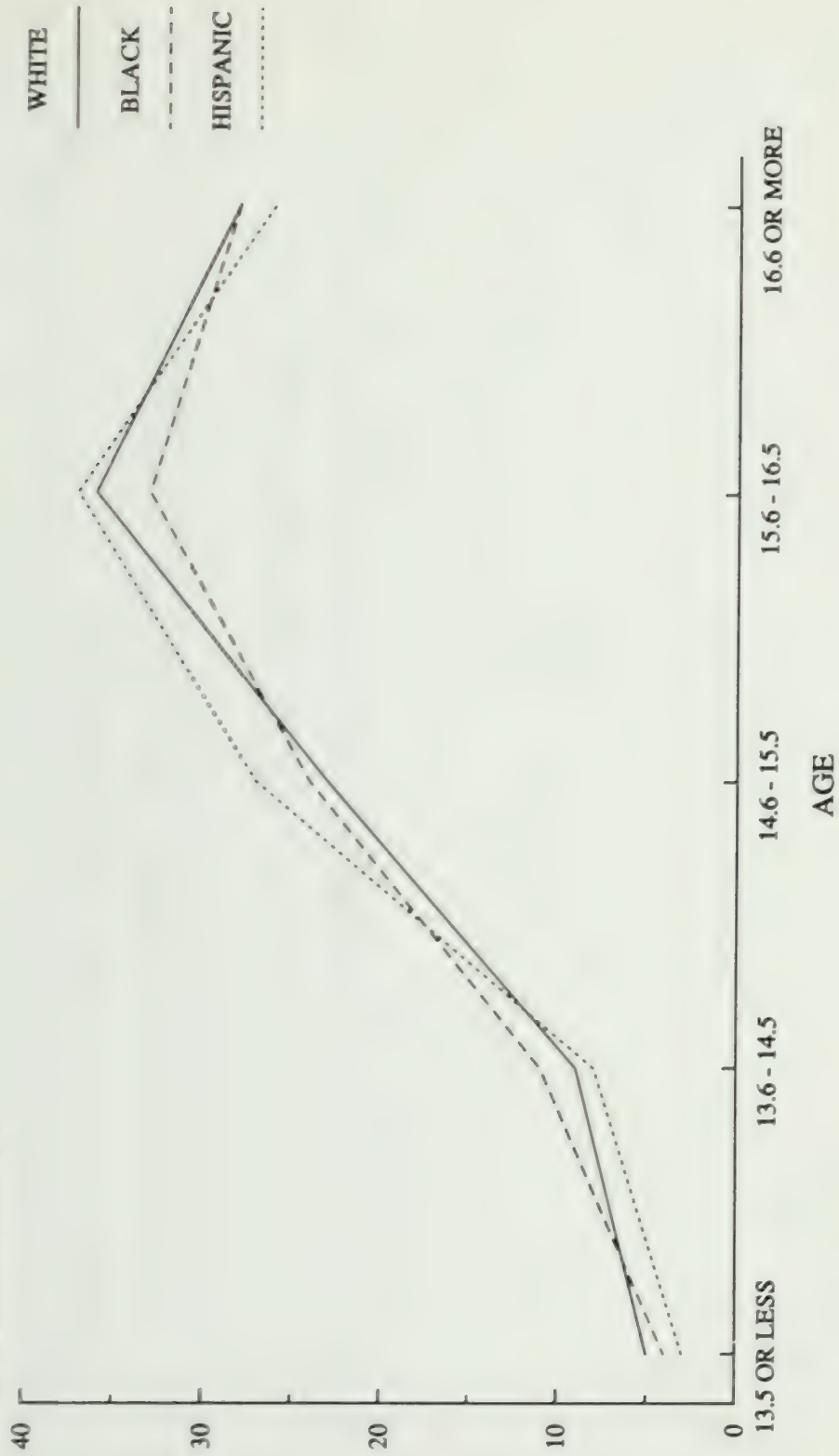
Over half of all white and Hispanic youths committed this year came from homes where the parents are divorced or separated. Over 40% of black youths committed came from homes where the parents were divorced or separated, and another 40% came from homes where the parents were never married. Twenty-one percent of the white youths came from homes where the parents were married and living together. For Hispanic and black youths this figure dropped to 13% and 11%, respectively.

TABLE XVI
AGE, OFFENSE TYPE AND PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS BY RACE

	WHITE			BLACK			HISPANIC			OTHER		
	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%	N	ROW%	COL%
AGE:												
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	6	60.0%	1.5%	2	20.0%	0.8%	1	10.0%	0.6%	1	10.0%	5.3%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	12	46.2%	3.0%	9	34.6%	3.5%	4	15.4%	2.4%	1	3.9%	5.3%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	34	43.0%	8.6%	29	36.7%	11.3%	13	16.5%	7.9%	3	3.8%	15.8%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	90	45.5%	22.8%	61	30.8%	23.7%	44	22.2%	26.7%	3	1.5%	15.8%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	141	48.0%	35.7%	84	28.6%	32.7%	61	20.7%	37.0%	8	2.7%	42.1%
16.6 OR MORE	112	48.9%	28.4%	72	31.4%	28.0%	42	18.3%	25.5%	3	1.3%	15.8%
OFFENSE TYPE:												
PERSON	111	42.5%	30.0%	103	39.5%	43.5%	41	15.7%	26.5%	6	2.3%	33.3%
PROPERTY	223	56.6%	60.3%	80	20.3%	33.8%	82	20.8%	52.9%	9	2.3%	50.0%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	5	10.2%	1.4%	27	55.1%	11.4%	17	34.7%	11.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	6	15.8%	1.6%	21	55.3%	8.9%	10	26.3%	6.5%	1	2.6%	5.6%
MOTOR VEHICLE	25	65.8%	6.8%	6	15.8%	2.5%	5	13.2%	3.2%	2	5.3%	11.1%
WEAPONS OFFENSE	0	0.0%	0.0%	6	60.0%	2.5%	4	40.0%	2.6%	0	0.0%	0.0%
PUBLIC ORDER	25	54.3%	6.8%	14	30.4%	5.9%	6	13.0%	3.9%	1	2.2%	5.6%
PARENTS' MARITAL STATUS:												
MARRIED AND LIVING TOGETHER	78	67.8%	21.1%	13	11.3%	6.8%	18	15.7%	12.8%	6	5.2%	33.3%
DIVORCED OR SEPARATED	208	56.5%	56.2%	82	22.3%	43.2%	71	19.3%	50.4%	7	1.9%	38.9%
NEVER MARRIED	54	31.2%	14.6%	79	45.7%	41.6%	39	22.5%	27.7%	1	0.6%	5.6%
EITHER OR BOTH DECEASED	25	50.0%	6.8%	10	20.0%	5.3%	12	24.0%	8.5%	3	6.0%	16.7%
OTHER	5	38.5%	1.4%	6	46.2%	3.2%	1	7.7%	0.7%	1	7.7%	5.6%

GRAPH 10 AGE BY RACE 1989

PERCENT OF COMMITMENTS



SECTION IV – HIGHLIGHTS

After remaining between 86 and 89 percent between 1982 and 1988, the proportion of newly committed youths who were male in 1989 rose to 91%. The total number of new commitments was 17% higher in 1989 than it was in 1988.

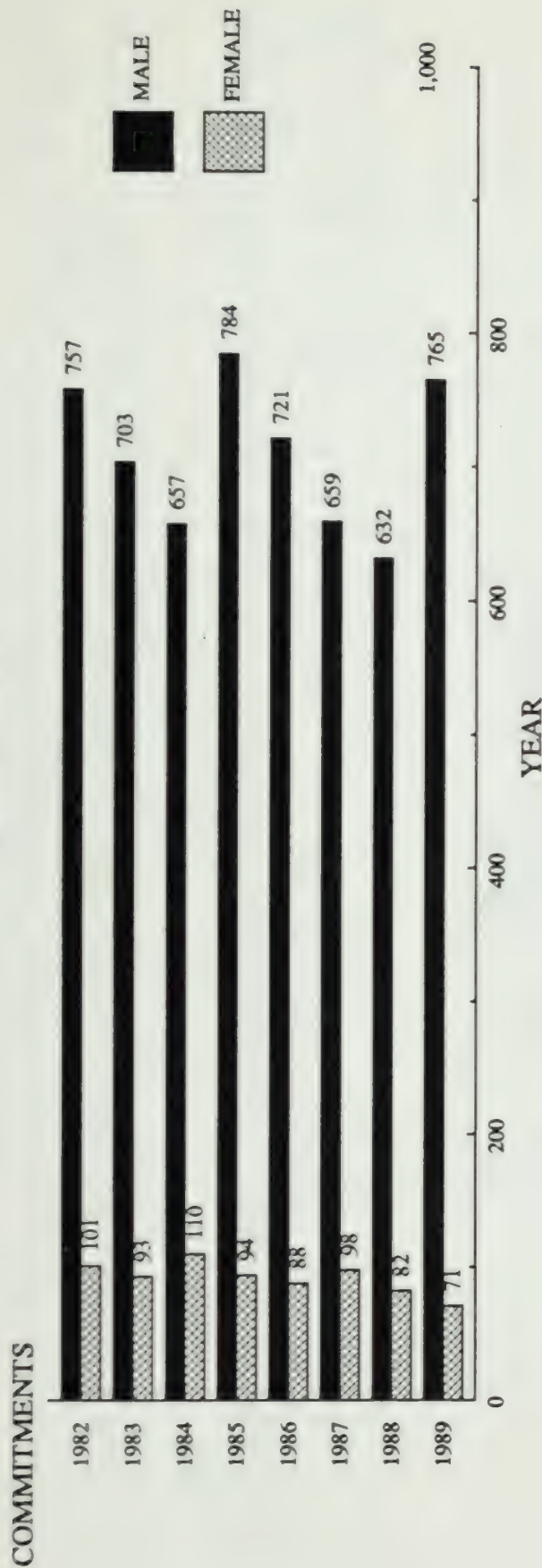
The proportion of new commitments who are white has decreased over time, dropping from 71% in 1982 to 47% in 1989. The proportion of new commitments who are black has risen from 19% in 1982 to 31% in 1989. Hispanic commitments have also risen from 10% in 1982 to 20% in 1989.

In 1982, new commitments were evenly distributed across the five regions. Since then, the proportions of youths committed each year has fluctuated between the regions. In 1989, the Western and Metro regions saw a higher proportion of new commitments than the other three regions.

The mean age at commitment has risen over time. After dropping, from 15 years 8 months to 15 years 7 months in 1983, the mean age at commitment has risen over time and was 15 years 10 months in 1989.

From 1982 to 1989, the proportion of youths committed for person offenses has also risen. After decreasing from 1987 to 1988, the number of youths newly committed for a person offense increased to 33% in 1989. This proportion is 7% higher than it was in 1982.

GRAPH 11 COMMITMENTS BY SEX 1982 - 1989



NEW COMMITMENTS PERCENT CHANGE, 1982 - 1989

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
1982	-7%	-11%	2%	-6%	-12%	-17%	-3%
1983	-	-4%	10%	2%	-5%	-10%	5%
1984	-	-	14%	6%	-1%	-7%	9%
1985	-	-	-	-8%	-14%	-19%	-5%
1986	-	-	-	-	-6%	-12%	3%
1987	-	-	-	-	-	-6%	10%
1988	-	-	-	-	-	-	17%

TABLE XVII
NEW COMMITMENTS BY RACE
1982 - 1989

	1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		1988		1989	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
RACE:																
TOTAL	858	100%	796	100%	767	100%	878	100%	809	100%	757	100%	714	100%	836	100%
WHITE	608	71%	554	70%	550	72%	569	65%	521	64%	427	56%	376	53%	395	47%
BLACK	160	19%	140	18%	132	17%	193	22%	179	22%	197	26%	202	28%	257	31%
HISPANIC	85	10%	90	11%	74	10%	108	12%	100	12%	127	17%	123	17%	165	20%
OTHER	5	1%	12	2%	11	1%	8	1%	9	1%	6	1%	13	2%	19	2%

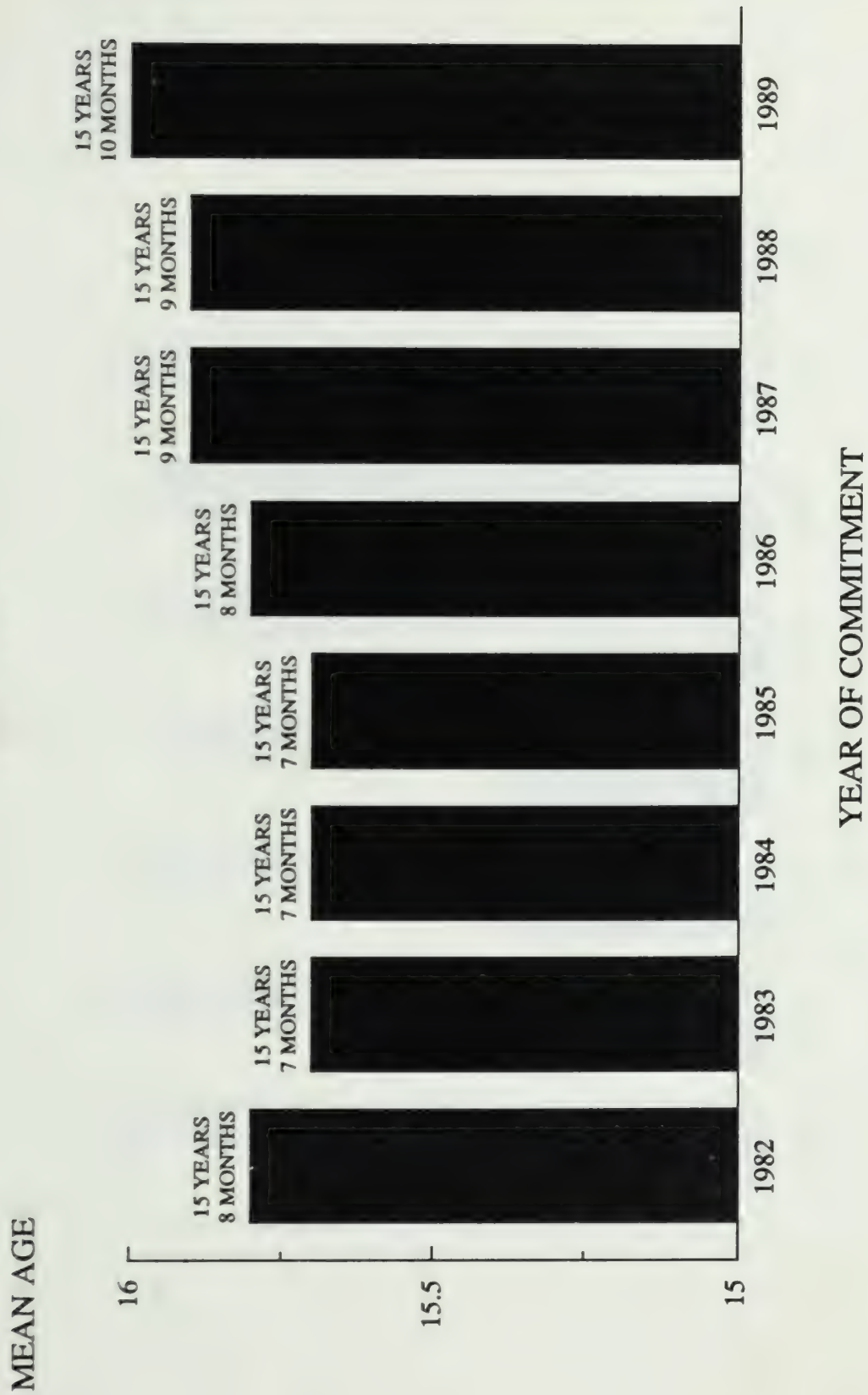
TABLE XVIII
NEW COMMITMENTS BY REGION
1982 - 1989

	1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		1988		1989	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
REGION:																
TOTAL	858	100%	796	100%	767	100%	878	100%	809	100%	757	100%	714	100%	836	100%
WESTERN	175	20%	184	23%	136	18%	185	21%	147	18%	160	21%	159	22%	185	22%
CENTRAL	173	20%	141	18%	166	22%	180	21%	157	19%	121	16%	131	18%	152	18%
NORTHEAST	171	20%	155	19%	150	20%	186	21%	157	19%	122	16%	133	19%	140	17%
SOUTHEAST	168	20%	161	20%	148	19%	131	15%	140	17%	146	19%	125	18%	148	18%
METRO	171	20%	155	19%	167	22%	196	22%	208	26%	208	27%	166	23%	211	25%

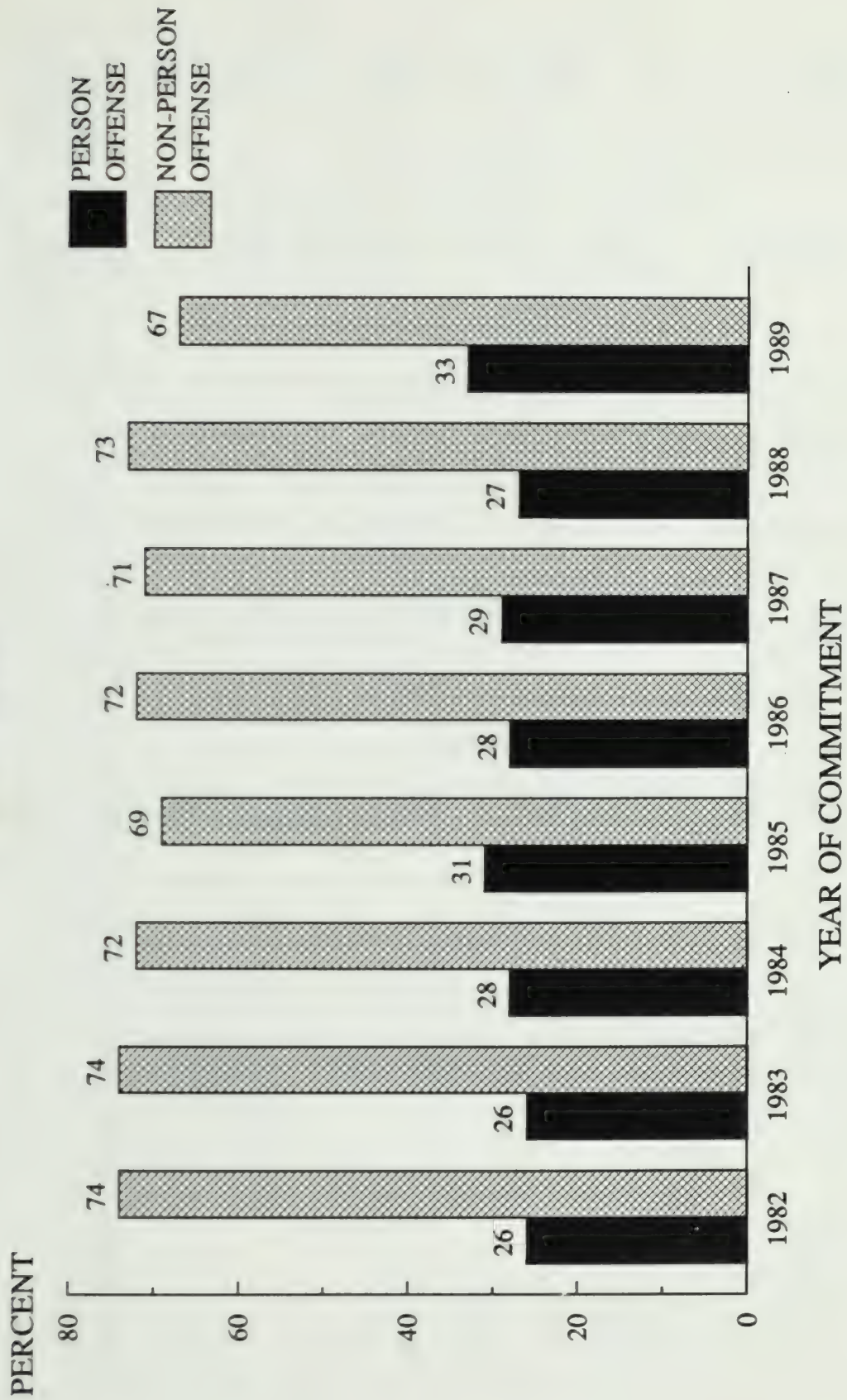
GRAPH 12

MEAN AGE AT COMMITMENT

1982 - 1989



GRAPH 13
COMMITMENTS BY OFFENSE TYPE
1982 - 1989



APPENDIX A - CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS WHOSE COMMITMENTS WERE REVISED/REVOKED

Appendix A presents the youths who were newly committed to the Department of Youth Services in 1987, 1988 and 1989 whose commitments were subsequently revoked. In 1989, the typical youth whose commitment was revoked was a white male from the Southeast region who was over 16.6 years of age. He was committed for between 21 and 81 days for a public order offense.

APPENDIX A CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS WHOSE COMMITMENT WAS REVISED/REVOKED 1987 - 1989

	1987		1988		1989		% CHANGE 1987-1989		% CHANGE 1988-1989	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL YOUTHS REVISED/REVOKED	7	100%	14	100%	24	100%	17	243%	10	71%
AGE:										
9.0 - 12.5 YEARS	0	0%	1	7%	0	0%	0	-	-1	-100%
12.6 - 13.5 YEARS	0	0%	1	7%	4	17%	4	-	3	300%
13.6 - 14.5 YEARS	0	0%	3	21%	2	8%	2	-	-1	-33%
14.6 - 15.5 YEARS	2	29%	3	21%	6	25%	4	200%	3	100%
15.6 - 16.5 YEARS	3	43%	3	21%	5	21%	2	67%	2	67%
16.6 YEARS OR MORE	2	29%	3	21%	7	29%	5	250%	4	133%
SEX:										
MALE	4	57%	11	79%	14	58%	10	250%	3	27%
FEMALE	3	43%	3	21%	10	42%	7	233%	7	233%
RACE:										
WHITE	6	86%	9	64%	15	63%	9	150%	6	67%
BLACK	1	14%	4	29%	5	21%	4	400%	1	25%
HISPANIC	0	0%	1	7%	4	17%	4	-	3	300%
OTHER	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	-	0	-
REGION:										
WESTERN	1	14%	2	14%	1	4%	0	0%	-1	-50%
CENTRAL	4	57%	2	14%	4	17%	0	0%	2	100%
NORTHEAST	0	0%	2	14%	6	25%	6	-	4	200%
SOUTHEAST	2	29%	6	43%	10	42%	8	400%	4	67%
METRO	0	0%	2	14%	3	13%	3	-	1	50%
CHARGE TYPE:										
PERSON	1	14%	0	0%	5	21%	4	400%	5	-
PROPERTY	3	43%	6	43%	8	33%	5	167%	2	33%
DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	-	0	-
POSSESSION OF DRUGS	0	0%	0	0%	1	4%	1	-	1	0%
MOTOR VEHICLE	0	0%	1	7%	1	4%	1	-	0	0%
WEAPONS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	-	0	-
PUBLIC ORDER	3	43%	7	50%	9	38%	6	200%	2	29%
LENGTH OF COMMITMENT										
0 - 20 DAYS	2	29%	3	21%	8	33%	6	300%	5	167%
21 - 81 DAYS	2	29%	4	29%	9	38%	7	350%	5	125%
82 - 138 DAYS	3	43%	4	29%	6	25%	3	100%	2	50%
139 - 258 DAYS	0	0%	3	21%	1	4%	1	-	-2	-67%

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